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THE EFFECTS OF POISON.—At the Central Criminal Court on Saturday, Israel Lipski was sentenced to death for the murder of a woman by pouring nitric acid down her throat; and at Chester Henry Martin, a brewer's labourer, was sentenced to penal servitude for twenty years for causing the death of a fellow-workman by throwing carbolic acid in his face. At Walsall on the 29th ult. Ann Norton, a young woman, was charged with attempting to commit suicide by taking solution of sulphate of atropia. She was repentant, promised not to do it again, and was given in charge of her mother. At Hamilton on Saturday, Alexander Hamilton, cab-driver, committed suicide with laudanum. Strychnine is the cause of the death of a young man at Darlington. A child of four weeks got a 10-drop dose of a "highly efficacious" cough mixture at Birmingham. The mixture was evidently intended for persons of mature years, for it was too much for the four-weeks old baby. A young Manchester chemist has died from congestion following corrosion of the throat, which was caused two months ago by solution of chloride of zinc. A dispensing error has resulted in the death of a highly-cultured lady at Bolton. The chemist's assistant read the prescription and gave his master the bottles. Thus the hydrocyanic acid bottle was given instead of the hydrochloric acid bottle. At Cork Dr. Cross awaits his trial for the alleged murder of his wife with arsenic and strychnine. These poisons were found in her exhumed body.

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE ARMY.—A meeting of medical members of the House of Commons was held on July 29 in one of the committee-rooms to consider the position of medical officers of the army, who have recently been in a sense lowered in status. Sir Guyer Hunter presided, and among those present were Sir Walter Foster and Dr. Farquharson. A strong feeling was expressed in favour of establishing a medical corps on a footing similar to that of the Royal Engineers, and it was decided to raise a debate on the grievances of which medical officers complain when the estimates come under discussion.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held in Dublin this week, the examination hall of Trinity College being the headquarters. The opening meeting commenced on Tuesday at half-past eleven o'clock, and there was a large attendance of members. The chair was in the first instance taken by the outgoing president, Dr. W. Withers Moore, who congratulated the association on the fact that whereas at its last meeting in Dublin, twenty years ago, presided over by the late Dr. William Stokes, its members numbered 3,000, the number was now four times as great. Dr. Moore then introduced the president for the ensuing year, Dr. John Banks, Regius Professor of Physic in the University of Dublin, who took the chair amid applause.

On the motion of Dr. Wheelhouse, seconded by Sir Thomas Crawford, M.D., K.C.B., thanks were voted to Dr. W. Moore for the manner in which he had presided during the past year.

Sir Walter Foster, M.D., M.P., president of the council, moved the adoption of the council's report.

A discussion ensued on the recommendation in the report regarding the fees to be paid to members of the council attending its meetings in London. An amendment was carried that that portion of the report should be struck out. Mr. Ernest Hart moved the adoption of the report of the Parliamentary Bills Committee. In this report the items of chief interest were the question of rank for medical men in the army and the reference to the Pharmacy Acts Amendment Bill. Regarding the latter Mr. Hart said that "the association were greatly indebted to Sir Walter Foster for his promptitude in bringing forward amendments for the protection of the medical profession from any possible encroachments, such as were threatened by that Bill, on the curative functions of the medical profession. As originally framed, the Bill threatened to give indirectly powers to chemists to practise and prescribe. He had had a correspondence with the General Medical Council on the subject; and the association were much indebted to the chairman of the General Medical Council for having transgressed formalities and pressed the views which had been put before him on the part of the association."

A very warm discussion followed regarding the army question, Sir Thomas Crawford moving that the paragraph in the report should be omitted. In the course of the discussion, a warm altercation took place between him and Mr. Ernest Hart, the editor of the *British Medical Journal*, who apparently regarded the amendment as a vote of censure on the committee of which he is chairman. Nevertheless, the amendment was adopted. Dr. Banks subsequently delivered the presidential address, in which he confined himself to matters of local interest, particularly those connected with the medical institutions of Ireland, and the changes and improvements which twenty years have brought about.

On Wednesday the various sections were in full swing, and some interesting addresses were delivered by the presidents of the sections. It may be stated that each day's programme begins with a religious service. On Tuesday services were held in both the Roman Catholic and Protestant Cathedrals. The service at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Marlborough Street, which was under the special sanction of Archbishop Walsh, was very impressive, and was attended by several prominent members of the association who were Protestants, and the church was crowded. The Archbishop, who presided, was surrounded by the canons and dignitaries of the diocese, wearing their vestments. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea. The Very Rev. L. Martial Klein, Professor of Biology in University College, Dublin, preached an eloquent sermon, taking for his text, "I was sick and ye visited me," Matt. xxv. 36. A very successful *conversazione* was held in the University, on Wednesday night.

The rooms of Trinity College have been placed at the disposal of the Association, and the museum is installed in the Anatomy department. The show this year is well up to the average, and most of the best known firms are represented. We shall allude to this more in detail in our next issue.

Metropolitan Reports.

POISONED WITH OXALIC ACID.—The Coroner of East Middlesex held an inquiry this week on the body of a woman, aged between fifty and sixty, who died from the effects of oxalic acid which she had taken.

FIRE.—Through the vapour of spirit coming in contact with flame, an explosion, followed by a fire, occurred on Tuesday morning at 333 Kentish Town Road, the premises of Mr. N. Williams, chemist, and serious damage was caused to the front basement of the premises.

EXCURSION.—The employés of Messrs. E. F. Langdale & Co., the Essence Distillery, 22 Hatton Garden, spent a thoroughly enjoyable day amid the pleasant scenery surrounding the "Robin Hood," Epping Forest, on Saturday. The party, numbering between sixty and seventy, were conveyed to their destination in brakes. In the afternoon the company sat down to dinner in the "Robin Hood." The toasts of "The Firm," "The Manager," "The Travellers," &c., were responded to by Mr. James Brown, Mr. A. J. Cove, Mr. E. Grove, and Mr. A. C. Faulkner. The proceedings, which were enlivened by some well-rendered songs, passed off admirably.

DRUG WAREHOUSE DESTROYED BY FIRE.—A very disastrous fire occurred in Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C., on Wednesday night, which resulted in the total destruction of the premises occupied by Messrs. C. R. Harker, Staggs & Morgan, wholesale druggists. The firm's warehouse was a substantial brick building of five floors, situated at the south-east part of the lane and close to Thames Street. It is in the heart of valuable and important business premises, and in consequence the fire caused intense alarm while it lasted. Mr. Staggs left the premises about six o'clock, a few clerks remaining to finish some work which they had on hand. When they were leaving two hours later they observed flames on the first floor, and immediately gave the alarm. The first fire-engine arrived about half-past eight, but by that time it was apparent that little could be done to save the building. The fire obtained a rapid hold of the very inflammable contents of the warehouse, and flames burst through the roof, and seemed certain to catch the entire block of buildings. Tinctures, essential oils, and other liquids of that nature burnt with startling strength, the flames going high in the air, illuminating the sky with a red light, and the fire actually ran right through the block into Arthur Street, where the premises also had a frontage. By nine o'clock all hope of saving any part of the building was gone, and the firemen directed their attention to saving adjoining buildings. The flames of the burning drug warehouse began to give way about eleven o'clock, and shortly after this the roof fell in. The firemen continued to ply their hoses upon the smoking ruins through the night and during Thursday. Nothing of the building now remains but the bare walls. In an interview which one of our staff had with Mr. Staggs, the principal partner of the firm, he stated that the origin of the fire was a mystery to him. When he left on Wednesday night everything seemed all right, and when the clerks first saw the flames they were of such a character that no clue could be got of their origin. He could not then (Thursday) estimate the amount of the damage, but it would be under 30,000£, and was covered by insurance.

The firm have secured temporary premises, and as other firms have very readily tendered their assistance, the disaster will only cause a day's interruption to the business. It is only a month ago since Mr. John Moss retired from the firm and it was reconstituted as Messrs. C. R. Harker, Staggs & Morgan, but it is to be hoped that the disaster will not affect the prosperity of the firm, to whom much sympathy is extended by the London wholesale drug trade.

AMBERGRIS is principally found floating on the sea of warm climates, though it is also obtained from the intestines of whales. The largest piece known weighed 182 lbs., and was bought from the king of Tydore by the Dutch East India Company. A piece weighing 130 lbs. was found in a whale near the Windward islands.

Provincial Reports.

Items of news, and newspapers containing matters of interest to the trade, sent to the Editor, will much oblige.

BIRMINGHAM.

METHYLATED TINCTURES.—Ugly rumours are afloat in the town that the excise authorities are investigating the sale by a local firm of medicinal tinctures made with methylated spirit, and that proceedings will in all probability be commenced against the offenders.

THE TRADE-MARK "PRESERVINE."—Last week, an enterprising local chemist, quite innocent of the fact that the word "Preservine" was the registered trade-mark of a firm in the Central Meat Market, London, placed before Birmingham provision merchants a preparation under that title. The article was accompanied by handbills setting forth its superior advantages over all other preservatives sold for the prevention of taint and putrefaction in meat, fish, game, poultry, milk, cream, butter, &c. Writs, injunctions, &c., which usually follow in the wake of accidents of this description were in this case happily averted through the instrumentality of Haydon's Chemists' Defence Agency, and in a few days the matter was amicably arranged upon an undertaking being given to the proprietors of the trade-mark that the labels, handbills, &c., pertaining to the infringement should be destroyed, and that no further sales of the preparation would be effected under the same title. *Moral:* Before you bring out an article with a fancy title ascertain if it has been already registered as a trade-mark.

POISONED WITH COUGH MIXTURE.—On Saturday, Mr. Hawkes (coroner) held an inquest on the body of an infant, four weeks old, named Thomas Henry Stirk. The infant had a slight cough, and Mrs. Harrison, a neighbour, took it to Mr. Cashmore's shop, in New John Street, where she purchased a pennyworth of cough mixture, and returning home told Mrs. Stirk she was to give the infant a teaspoonful of it in a little water. The bottle bore a label, describing the contents as "Pectoral Cough Mixture, a highly efficacious medicine, as proved by many years' experience." It gave directions as to doses for adults and children of fourteen years of age, but not for infants.

In her evidence Mrs. Stirk said when Mrs. Harrison told her she was to give the child a teaspoonful she said, "Well, I should think that's rather too much," and she only gave him ten drops, repeating the dose later in the evening owing to the child getting no better. His condition ultimately became such that she took him to the General Hospital, where he died next day. Mrs. Harrison deposed to taking the baby to Mr. Cashmore's and showing it to that gentleman, who gave her the mixture in question, with instructions to administer it in doses of a teaspoonful in water two or three times a day. Mr. Cashmore, however, denied this. He ordered, he said, a dose of ten drops only. When the infant was shown him, and his age stated to be fourteen days, he replied, "Well, if you are the mother you and it ought to be in bed." Dr. Wilson, of the General Hospital, attributed death to narcotic poisoning. He had not analysed the mixture, but imagined it contained some form of opium. Mr. Cashmore said a stock bottle of twenty ounces contained one ounce of paregoric.

In summing up, the Coroner commented upon the use of the word "adult" in labels as one of the most stupid of the many hundred stupid things done in Birmingham. People of the class of Mrs. Stirk and her neighbour, not being versed in foreign languages, might imagine it to mean some wonderful bird. The case seemed to him to be one of death from misadventure. A verdict to this effect was returned.

BOLTON.

FATAL DISPENSING ERROR.—On Saturday an inquest was held by Mr. J. B. Edge, district coroner, at Crompton Fold, near Bolton, regarding the death, on the previous day, of Miss Louisa Briggs (58), daughter of the late Christopher Briggs, J.P. The deceased lady had been attended by a Manchester physician, and his prescriptions were made up by Mr. Pownall, an old Bolton chemist. On Thursday afternoon she sent a

bottle to Mr. Pownall's to be filled. Amongst other ingredients the prescription for it contained bicarbonate of potash and hydrochloric acid, but by some mistake an apprentice handed Mr. Pownall the hydrocyanic acid instead of the hydrochloric, and it was not noticed. The lady, on the Friday morning, took a dose of the medicine (two tablespoonfuls, which contained 36 minims of dilute hydrocyanic acid), and immediately felt ill. At the inquest a housemaid stated that she had taken a cup of tea to Miss Briggs about eight o'clock on Friday morning, and immediately she got downstairs the bell was rung twice. She again went upstairs, and found her mistress very ill. Dr. Garstang was sent for, but Miss Briggs was unconscious when he arrived, and died at ten o'clock.

Dr. Garstang stated that he applied remedies to restore consciousness, but they had no effect. He noticed two bottles upon a table, and, opening one—the smaller bottle—noticed a smell as of bitter almonds. It contained hydrocyanic acid. Dr. Sergeant gave the result of the examination of the deceased's stomach (in which he was assisted by Mr. John Collins, public analyst). There was a dark fluid, in which he found hydrocyanic acid. Death had been caused by partaking of that poison. Margaret Hutton Turnbull, lady companion of the deceased, deposed to leaving the bottle with, and obtaining the mixture from, Mr. Pownall. She asked Mr. Pownall if he could make it up in a quarter of an hour, and he replied that he would do his best to oblige her.

T. R. Pownall, chemist and druggist, said that he had been in business as a chemist about twenty years on St. George's Road, and had made up medicine according to the prescription on several occasions. He had a copy of the prescription entered in prescription-book in the ordinary way. In the prescription the term "hydrochloric" was contracted, but the Coroner said that was a point of no importance. On Thursday afternoon Miss Turnbull brought the bottle "a" to be dispensed according to the prescription, similar to that made on previous occasions. As far as his memory served him, he asked her to give him half an hour to make it up. She said she could not allow him so long a time, and would be back in about ten minutes. He promised her to get it ready in that time. She left the shop, there being other customers in at the time. He told his eldest apprentice, Woodville Lawton, to get a clean measure and to find the prescription in the book, and also to obtain other things necessary in the dispensing of the medicine. Witness weighed out the bicarbonate of potash, placed some water along with it to dissolve it, and added what he believed to be hydrochloric acid. These were the only two drugs in the mixture. He filled the bottle up with water, and had just finished dispensing when Miss Turnbull called. There were only two bottles on the counter used in the mixing up of the medicine. He knew the mixture had to effervesce, and it effervesced as usual. He did not notice whether it effervesced more than usual. The apprentice removed the bottles, and did not make any remark to witness. The bottle containing the hydrocyanic acid was a darkish blue colour. It had no distinguishing marks upon it with the exception of a label containing the word "poison," and also the name of the acid. The bottles were a little different in size, and were not kept on the same shelf. The one containing hydrochloric acid was, he believed, a white one labelled "poison." The hydrocyanic acid was kept in a coloured bottle for the sake of preserving its strength. He did not look at the bottles on account of being in a hurry, and took them as they were handed down to him. Lawton had been with him three years, and was nineteen years of age. The bottles were about two yards apart. Witness could give no explanation as to how he got hold of the wrong bottle; it was purely a mistake.

After a slight cross-examination, Woodville Lawton was called. He said he was not in the shop when Miss Turnbull called. He was in another room, and Mr. Pownall told him to get a clean measure to mix some medicine for Miss Briggs, and also to look into the prescription-book. He saw the words "pot. bi-carb." on the prescription, which he understood, and he got the bottle to which this referred. He glanced at the book and read what he thought to be diluted hydrocyanic acid, though at the time the writing was somewhat obscured by the shadow of the window-blind. Thus being under the impression that hydrocyanic acid was wanted, he reached the bottle down. He did not remember

having seen the prescription before. The bottle containing the hydrocyanic acid was kept in a cupboard and the other on a shelf. He noticed that the medicine had to be taken internally, and he knew that this acid was a poison. Mr. Pownall was supposed to read the labels on the bottles before using them. Mr. Pownall had of late suffered from a weak action of the heart, which caused nervous excitement, and this always troubled him when he was hurried.

The Coroner: This is really what it comes to. Lawton believed that hydrocyanic acid was wanted, and he got it. The whole of the system in Mr. Pownall's shop shows a lamentable want of care in dealing with poisons.

By Mr. Briggs: If the poisons had been kept in some particular kind of bottle, Mr. Pownall, the moment he had received them into his hands, would have known them to be poisons, although he (witness) had made a mistake.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased was poisoned by misadventure, caused by the great negligence of Mr. Pownall and his assistant, and recommended that the Coroner should censure them. In doing so, the Coroner first addressed Lawton and cautioned him to be extremely careful; and to Mr. Pownall he said that he must have taken up the bottles in full faith that the correct ones were handed to him.

The London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*, commenting on this case, says:—"It is quite time something was done by Parliament to insist on more effectual safeguards. A mere label, or the name of the drug, is obviously insufficient, yet it is very difficult to draw a hard and fast line as to the manner of sale. In the chemist's shop there should be no danger in employing for poisons one description of bottle or box not used for anything else. A further security could be obtained in the chemists' shop by keeping poisons in a series of shelves quite apart from the drugs that do not carry death with them into the vitals. Accidental poisoning is becoming quite too frequent to be borne by the community."

The *Bradford Daily Telegraph* remarks that "Druggists should be made to realise thoroughly the necessity for extreme care. People have to trust to them, and there is in general little or no chance of repairing a mistake. The medicine is swallowed, no matter what may be thought of it, and if the druggist has blundered, death is all but certain to be the penalty entailed on the sufferer. Merely to censure a man for making a blunder cannot be considered adequate, and it would be well if, as in the case of shipmasters, blundering of such a character were to entail the suspension for a time in accord with the offence of the certificate of competency for the discharge of the duties of a chemist and druggist. That is a reform which seems much needed in the interest of the public."

CORK.

ALLEGED WIFE MURDER BY A DOCTOR.—An inquiry was held in Cork last week into the circumstances attending the death of Mrs. Cross, wife of Dr. Philip H. E. Cross, ex-army surgeon, who resided at Shandy Hill, near the village of Dripsey. Deceased was forty-nine years of age, and died on June 2 of typhoid fever (according to her husband's certificate). Immediately after his wife's funeral Dr. Cross left home and returned in about a fortnight, having meanwhile married a girl of twenty-two who used to be his governess. Rumours began to float about the neighbourhood to the effect that no one was allowed to see the late Mrs. Cross during her illness, and foul play was hinted at. These reached the ears of the constabulary, who communicated with the district coroner, who opened an inquiry into the matter. Mr. M. J. Horgan, solicitor, coroner for the district, accordingly sat in Coachford on July 21, on which day the body of Mrs. Cross was exhumed for examination. Mrs. Caulfield, a lady friend of deceased's, was then examined, and the inquest was adjourned till July 29, in order to allow time for a chemical analysis of the contents of the viscera. Amongst the witnesses called on that day was Mr. C. T. Pearson, Professor of Materia Medica, Queen's College, Cork, who stated the results of the post-mortem examination and of his chemical analysis. He found white arsenic in the gullet, stomach, intestines, liver, spleen,

and the right kidney, it being particularly abundant in the liver. Strychnine was also found in small quantity in the stomach. He had estimated the quantity of arsenic present and found it to be sufficient to cause death. He did not have time to complete the examination for alkaloids. Dr. Crowley, medical officer of the Dripsey Dispensary, gave corroborative evidence. Some other evidence having been given the jury retired, and after a quarter of an hour's deliberation handed in their verdict, which was, "That Mary Laura Cross died at Shandy Hall, county Cork, between the morning of June 1 and 2, 1887, and that death was caused by the effects of poison." Dr. Cross has since been committed for trial on a charge of murder. He is stated to be a man of fine appearance and generally respected in the neighbourhood.

DARLINGTON.

STRYCHNINE-POISONING.—An inquest was held on July 29 at Darlington, by Mr. J. T. Proud, deputy coroner, on the body of James Kay Robson, aged twenty-six, who was found dead in bed on Wednesday morning, the indications being that he had taken poison. The evidence of deceased's father went to show that deceased retired to bed in his usual health on Tuesday night, and was found dead next morning. He had been rather depressed of late, and lately had not lived with his wife. A sister of the deceased stated that a small box with a packet, which medical evidence showed was strychnine, had been upon the dressing-table of deceased since before last Christmas. Dr. Jackson stated that a post-mortem examination of the body led him to the belief that death arose from strychnine-poisoning. Some strychnine adhered to a glass in which, apparently, it had been put into solution. A verdict in accordance with the evidence was returned, the jury declining to say whether it was intentional or accidental.

DEVONPORT.

LAUDANUM-POISONING: A MEDICAL SOCIETY CENSURED.—An inquiry was held here last week into the circumstances of the death from laudanum-poisoning of a gentleman named Foxwell. In the course of the inquiry it transpired that Dr. Harding, of the Medical Aid Society, was sent for to attend deceased, but that he did not come. Mr. E. T. Hinvest, surgeon, deposed that death was due to laudanum-poisoning. Mr. Gard, the coroner, in summing up the evidence, pointed out that, although he had taken great pains to discover where deceased purchased the laudanum, he had failed to obtain any clue. He also spoke about the responsibilities of chemists in selling laudanum without entering the sale in their books, and the penalty they incurred for such neglect (*sic*). The jury added a rider to their verdict that they were of opinion that the surgeons of the Medical Aid Society did not give that prompt attention to the case which they ought to have done.

DUBLIN.

DRINKING CARBOLIC ACID IN MISTAKE.—On Sunday, July 31, a girl named Mary Ann McQuick swallowed in mistake a considerable quantity of carbolie acid. She was taken immediately to Mercer's Hospital, where she was successfully treated.

AMALGAMATION.—The conjoint scheme between the Apothecaries' Hall and the Royal College of Surgeons, which was proposed by Sir Charles A. Cameron, has been agreed to by both bodies. Each body will provide examiners in certain subjects, and conjointly will provide examiners in midwifery, chemistry, and physics.

HALIFAX.

SODA-WATER.—In his report to the Sanitary Committee of the Halifax Corporation, the borough analyst (Mr. William Ackroyd) states that he examined four samples of soda-water; one sample contained less than two grains of bicarbonate of soda per pint, whilst another sample contained nearly thirty-four grains per pint, and these remarkable results have been strongly commented upon.

MANCHESTER.

SAD DEATH OF A YOUNG CHEMIST.—Mr. S. Smelt, deputy city coroner, held an inquest on Monday relative to the death of Arthur Smith, aged twenty-five, a manufacturing chemist, late of 314 Blackburn Road, Haslingden. On June 1 last the deceased was at his place of business superintending two men who were engaged in emptying a cask of solution of chloride of zinc with a syphon. The syphon choked, and as the deceased was stooping down to see what was the matter with it, the zinc spurted up over his face and into his mouth. He went home and received medical attendance; but his throat became congested, and he at length was unable to take solid food. He gradually got worse, and died on July 26. A verdict was returned to the effect that he had died from the effects of swallowing chloride of zinc solution.

EXPLOSIONS OF METHYLATED SPIRIT have become very frequent of late, a circumstance probably due to the fact that the Inland Revenue authorities will only pass very bad samples of naphtha for the purpose of methylating. Impure naphtha is apt to generate explosive compounds. To this fact is evidently due an explosion which occurred on Monday in the Crosby Hotel, Withy Grove. Miss Lizzie Jackson, one of the barmaids, was in the act of lighting a methylated spirit lamp which supplies the motive power to an ornamental fountain in the smoke-room when an explosion took place. The flame caught Miss Jackson's dress, a light print one; she was immediately enveloped in fire, and as there was no one in the room at the time, the fire injured her so seriously that her life is despaired of.

NOTTINGHAM.

LAUDANUM-POISONING.—At the Alfreton Petty Sessions on July 29 William Shaw was charged with attempting to commit suicide at Newton Green on July 18. It was stated in evidence that defendant had swallowed $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of the poison. He was committed for trial.

PROSECUTION UNDER THE PHARMACY ACT.—The sequel to the above case came before the same magistrates during the sitting. It was a charge under the 17th section of the Pharmacy Act against William Wallis for selling fourpennyworth of laudanum to William Shaw, the prisoner in the previous case, on July 18. Shaw took it with intent to commit suicide, and, it was stated, desperate efforts had to be made by the medical man to save his life. Defendant admitted selling the laudanum to Shaw when off his guard. He was a herbalist, and not entitled to sell poisons. The Chairman said defendant had made himself liable to a penalty of 5*l.*, but he would be fined 1*l.* and costs.

SHEFFIELD.

PHARMACEUTICAL AND CHEMICAL SOCIETY.—A special general meeting was held at the new rooms, Fitzalan Square, on Wednesday evening, July 27, to consider the revision of the rules. The president (Mr. J. M. Furness) occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings by briefly explaining the action of the council in this matter. Some difficulties had occurred in the working of the society's affairs, and an opinion had been gaining ground amongst the members that some alteration in the rules was necessary and desirable. Accordingly the council had taken the matter up, appointed a sub-committee to deal with it, and now desired to communicate the results of their labours to the members generally. They recommended, first, that the present rules be rescinded in their entirety and new rules adopted. Under these new rules the society retains its old name, the council is empowered to elect as honorary members "persons who have distinguished themselves in pharmacy and allied branches of knowledge," and the annual meetings will be held in September of each year, the evening meetings being held on the second Wednesday of each month. The new rules were adopted, and it was resolved to hold only a formal meeting next month.

HERR WIECYK states that diseases of the chest and lungs are almost unknown amongst the petroleum-workers of the Carpathians, and that the vapours and gases escaping from the petroleum-workings preserve the people from epidemics and infectious disorders.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL MEETING.

THE last summer meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday under the presidency of Mr. Carteighe. All other members were present except Mr. Woolley. Mr. Butt, who was last month elected in the room of Mr. Williams, was present, and occupied his old place to the left of the Vice-President.

The minutes of the former meeting having been read Mr. BUTT rose, and begged to tender to his fellow-members his best thanks for the honour done him in electing him in room of Mr. Williams. In future, as in the past, he hoped to devote a large share of his time to the detail work of the Society, which now required a considerable sacrifice of time and personal convenience from those who undertook it—(hear, hear)—and was more important than making long speeches at that table. Had he been more in the habit of taking a greater share in the latter part of the Council's proceedings he might have occupied a different place at the last election.

THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

The President read a letter from Mr. Matthews, Home Secretary, acknowledging the receipt of the loyal address to the Queen, which was duly laid before Her Majesty, who now, through Mr. Matthews and the Secretary of the Society, expressed her appreciation.

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Certain persons who are chemists and druggists, pharmaceutical chemists, &c., were elected as associates, members, &c., of the Society, and several who have allowed their connection to lapse were restored on the payment of a fine. The local secretaries in the towns where the Preliminary examination is held were appointed superintendents of the examination, and, on the nomination of these gentlemen, deputy superintendents were also appointed.

BENEVOLENT FUND DINNER.

This committee brought up their report, which showed that the total receipts were 1,604*l.* 12*s.*, which included 1,362*l.* 14*s.* of donations. The charges amounted to 237*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* of which was for printing and postage. The balance on the account was thus 1,317*l.* 10*s.* The PRESIDENT moved the adoption of the report. He remarked that this sum, though smaller than had been got together hitherto, was even more than he expected this year, for since the last decennial dinner many of their friends had given handsome donations to the fund—indeed, such donations were more numerous and larger than at any previous period; that accounted for the absence of some names from the list, and, apart from the numerous calls upon chemists owing to the Jubilee, it sufficiently accounted for the falling-off. He desired to tender to every one of the craft the most hearty thanks of the Society for the support which had been given on this occasion.

Mr. ATKINS wished to say that he was exceedingly pleased at the result. When he proposed that the dinner should be postponed this year he did not anticipate that anything like 1,300*l.* would be got. Mr. ROBBINS also considered it satisfactory. The report was agreed to. The SECRETARY then read the report of the

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

There was nothing of an unusual character in this report, and the PRESIDENT, in moving its adoption, explained that the receipts included 3,052*l.*, which had been obtained by the sale of 3,000*l.* of Three per Cents.; but with this exception the receipts were small, and the same could be said of the Benevolent Fund. The sum which the dinner had yielded for the latter enabled the committee to recommend an investment of 1,000*l.* in Consols. Consols were selected because the Inland Revenue Department did not require the payment of income tax on any moneys invested therein. Referring to the payments from the General Fund, he said that the lawyers' bill of 127*l.*, less about 20*l.* for purely Society business, was for prosecutions under the Pharmacy Act. They had to set against that charge a sum of 79*l.* which had been

received as penalties, so that the actual charge of the enforcement of the law was less than usual. It was again moved to set aside 1,000*l.* for building purposes [the last vote has not been required]. Arising out of this Mr. SYMES asked how much had already been paid, the President replying, "Between 3,500*l.* and 4,000*l.*" In reply to Mr. Bottle, he also stated that the lawyers' charges did not include those for the Leith Depot case.

As the report was about to be adopted,

Mr. EVANS rose to ask the President what he supposed were the duties of the members of the Finance Committee. He happened to be one, and he had discovered on the previous night that he could not call in question any of the items on the accounts which were submitted for the committee's approval. The President said that all the committee had to do was to pass the accounts. He thought this was rather a strange proceeding. As a finance committee, it was their duty to see that the charges were proper and reasonable charges, and, unless the committee were to have some control over what was submitted to them, he would be compelled to bring the matter more prominently before the Council. There had been a little dispute at the committee meeting on the night previous, owing to objections which he had made regarding one bill, but since then the President had explained the matter to him, and he now wished to express his regret for what had occurred at the committee meeting. He was now assured that the bill in question had been checked by the President before it came before the committee. He wished, however, to ensure a better way of doing business, and, with this in view, proposed that the financial statement should be printed each month and sent to members, along with other papers and the notice of the meeting. If members had this before them the business would be greatly facilitated, and probably it would ensure thorough economy. Moreover, it was the custom of most public bodies to submit their accounts in this way.

The PRESIDENT said that the question which the committee had to consider regarding the bill referred to, as well as others, was not whether it was high or low, but whether it was correct financially, and if so to pass it. The bill had been before the House Committee and himself, and had been approved for payment.

Mr. SYMES said that when he was as young in Council matters as Mr. Evans he had just the same feelings. He felt that his duties as a member of the Finance Committee were those of an automaton. (Laughter.) All that the members had to do was to approve. But as one gained experience it was seen that the procedure was probably the best in the circumstances. He did not know clearly what Mr. Evans referred to, but if it was a question for the house, then the House Committee would have received the bill, and it was their duty to examine it and see that it was a proper charge. There was something to be said for Mr. Evans's proposal. He had often thought that if a bill had not passed a committee, that some explanation should be made such as would relieve them from any idea of excessive charge.

Mr. EVANS said that the item was one of 90*l.* odd for painting, and he had expressed the opinion that an estimate should have been taken; but the President had since satisfactorily explained the matter.

The SECRETARY here remarked that the figures of the monthly statement could not be ready for issuing with the notice of the meeting. They were not completed until after the notices were sent out. Mr. EVANS, however, thought that some arrangement could be made for acquainting the members of the committee, at least, of the business that was to come before them.

Mr. ALLEN then remarked that most of the payments in the accounts were of a routine character. There were few extraordinary payments, and all payments passed through some committee, so that there was little for the Finance Committee to do but to approve. When he was appointed on the committee in place of Mr. Radley, his predecessor remarked that it was really an audit committee, which paved the way for the auditors.

Mr. EVANS wondered why they should have the committee at all in these circumstances. There was an item of 135*l.* for painting, one of 31*l.* for contributions, and something for carpentry. He did not find fault with these, but they were

not ordinary payments, and he could not see why he should not have a copy of the accounts before the meeting.

The PRESIDENT thought that it would be no trouble to have a copy of the accounts on the table for each member on council-day; and Mr. RICHARDSON expressed the opinion that the same thing should be done as with the Benevolent Fund statement. There was a good deal of opposition to that when it was first proposed, but it had turned out to be a most valuable document.

The PRESIDENT said that when twenty-one gentlemen came together for checking such things as accounts, his experience was that they were not checked. It was far the better plan to point out anything that was extraordinary. The item which Mr. Evans referred to was an annual charge, for which a contract had been taken five years ago. It was for painting, and was always the same. In reply to Mr. Atkins, he stated that no account was paid before it had been passed by committee.

Mr. SYMES asked if the charge of 40*l.* for painting skylights was included.

Mr. HAMPSON supported Mr. Evans's proposal. A monthly statement of expenditure would keep the minds of members refreshed regarding the charges on the accounts, and would be in the interests of economy. They all knew that they required to be economical nowadays. (Hear, hear.) He thought that the proposal should be pressed, for every member was responsible for the payments.

Mr. SYMES again asked a reply to his question regarding the skylights. He thought it was included. If not it was a rather serious matter.

The PRESIDENT replied that the item was not included. The order was given once in five years, and fell to be done during the recess this year.

Mr. RICHARDSON here said to the President: Previous to you, Mr. President, we had a series of economical presidents who did not go in so much for stucco and paint as you do. (Laughter.) We used to have the house painted once in three years, now it is done every year, and it seems the charge is excessive.

Mr. EVANS submitted that he had really no idea of starting this discussion, but the matter was becoming somewhat serious. He understood that one coat of paint cost 98*l.*; that was over 290*l.* for three. Did that not seem *rather* high? (Sensation.)

Mr. BOTTLE said that he was responsible for the new way of doing the painting, but he was surprised to hear that the skylights were only painted once in five years.

Here the President elicited from the Secretary that the outside skylights were painted every year and the inside quinquennially.

Mr. HAMPSON considered the charge enormous, and thought that something should be done to restore the brick surface, it would have a better appearance and would be a great benefit to the Society. He again urged that the monthly statement should be supplied to each member.

Mr. ROBBINS could not agree to that. Members would be able to take them away, and so the statement would become public property and might be published. (No, no!) Well, it was equivalent to publication, and was objectionable. (No, no!)

Mr. HILLS asked what was really wanted. Mr. Evans would like his statement on Tuesday, and if he did not get it, it was to be sent to him wherever he happened to be. Mr. Hampson, on the other hand, wanted it on Wednesday. Which was it to be? He thought the whole talk was a perfect waste of time.

After some further conversation Mr. Richardson hoped that Mr. Hampson's suggestion to restore the brick surface would be carried out; it was important. He thought they should do away with the "beastly stucco." It was then agreed, on the suggestion of the President, to leave the matter to the House Committee, who would see what could be done regarding the monthly statement. Mr. Evans expressed his satisfaction, and the matter dropped.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

The report of this committee was, as usual, read in committee. Three grants of 10*l.* each were recommended. The report was adopted on the motion of the Vice-President.

LIBRARY, MUSEUM, LABORATORY, AND HOUSE.

The report of this committee contained the usual details regarding the various parts of the institution which it refers to. The committee recommended the purchase of a new blackboard—(great laughter)—and a recommendation was made regarding the payment of lecture materials for the professors. The Council went into committee regarding the latter item, which ultimately was reserved for further consideration. The report also contained references to the professorial reports and new arrangements for class certificates.

APPOINTMENT OF A PROFESSOR OF BOTANY.

This matter also came within the report. Fourteen applications had been received. A short list of three had been made, and the committee had interviewed the three applicants on the previous day, and unanimously recommended Mr. Joseph R. Green, B.A. (Cantab.), B.Sc. (Lond.), Scholar of Botany, Trinity College, Cambridge, for the appointment. The Council went into committee while the President gave particulars regarding the applications and the selection. On resuming,

The PRESIDENT moved the appointment of Mr. Green as Professor of Botany, his duties to commence on October 1. He recited the facts above noted, and congratulated the Society on the selection which had been made. Knowing the character of his original work, he was sure that Mr. Green would add lustre to the school, and was destined to achieve excellent work in the future.

The motion was seconded by the Vice-President, and carried unanimously.

THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.

Mr. ALLEN wished to call attention to the new syllabus, which also contained information regarding the prizes and certificates, and proposed that a copy of the syllabus should be sent to each associate and apprentice, each local secretary, and the secretaries of local associations.

After some remarks from Messrs. Cross, Symes, and Newsholme supporting this proposal, it was agreed to.

It was stated that in future no certificates of merit will be given in the herbarium competition.

THE SESSIONAL ADDRESS.

The PRESIDENT intimated that Sir Dyce Duckworth had consented to deliver the inaugural address to students in October. (Applause.)

IN COMMITTEE

the report of the Building Committee was read, and, on resuming, was adopted, as was also a resolution for certain whitewashing work.

AWARDS OF STUDENTS' PRIZES.

The first part of the report of the General Purposes Committee referred to the Professors' reports of the examinations of classes. Professor Bentley reported satisfactorily, for the thirty-ninth time, on the class of

Botany and Materia Medica,

and the Council made the following awards:—

Second Course:

Bronze Medal—C. A. Andrews.

Certificate of Merit—W. M. Palmer.

Session:

Silver Medal—Edmund White.

Certificates of Honour—John Thomas, Weston Poole, and E. J. Woolley.

Certificates of Merit—C. R. Andrews, David Reid, and A. R. Cross.

Practical Chemistry.

Professor Attfield reported that the attendance had been good and the work excellent. The following awards were made:—

Silver Medal—E. White.

Bronze Medals—E. Young and D. Reid.

Certificates of Honour—E. J. Woolley and C. A. Andrews.

Certificates of Merit—W. Poole, G. Averil, and A. E. Chaston.

Chemistry.

Professor Dunstan reported that he was unable, owing to the defects in the present system of teaching, to recommend the award of a bronze medal for the Second Course. The following prizes were awarded on his recommendation:—

Second Course:

Certificates of Merit—T. A. Beadle, A. E. Chaston, and W. M. Palmer.

Session:

Silver Medal—E. White.

Certificates of Honour—J. Thomas, E. J. Woolley, and W. Poole.

Herbarium Competition.

The herbaria sent in were examined by Professor Bentley, who spoke highly of those for which he recommended awards, viz.:—

Silver Medal—C. P. Smith.

Bronze Medal—Henry Garnett.

Council Prizes.

The examination for these prizes was reported in last week's issue. Eight candidates had entered, but only six came forward, and Messrs. Ransom and Thresh recommended the following awards:—

Pereira Medal, and books value 5*l.* presented by Mr. T. H. Hills—John Thomas.

Council's Silver Medal and 3*l.* worth of books—Margaret E. Buchanan.

Council's Bronze Medal and 2*l.* worth of books—C. B. Gilson.

The PRESIDENT, in submitting the recommendations, said that on this occasion again a Bell scholar had taken the first prizes in the school, but was too young to enter for the qualifying examinations. He had to congratulate the Council, however, on the success of Mr. Thomas and Miss Buchanan—(applause)—both students of the Society's school.

Mr. BUTT said that Professor Dunstan made a remark regarding a defect in the school system which prevented students of the Second Course from getting a medal, although he reported very satisfactorily of the Session examination. It was curious that after forty years it should be left to Professor Dunstan to discover the defect, and if it existed he thought it should be removed. But perhaps the President could explain. Mr. Schacht also wished an explanation; which the President gave, saying that the July examinations took many of the students away from regular class work, so that they fell behind in it. That was not the case in the First Course.

THE LEITH DEPÔT CASE.

The Council then took up legal matters for consideration, "strangers" being requested to withdraw. On resuming, the PRESIDENT said that, in regard to the Leith Depôt case, it was not possible, according to Scotch law, to appeal to the House of Lords, and the decision of the High Court of Justiciary was final so far as that case was concerned. Any further steps on the same lines as had been adopted in that case would, therefore, have to form the subject of further consideration on the part of the Council should it be thought desirable to go on.

THE COUNCIL CENSURES LORD YOUNG.

Mr. SCHACHT then read the following resolution, which had evidently been prepared and agreed to in committee:—

That this Council is aware that it must, on the legal question recently submitted to the High Court of Justiciary, yield to the decision, but it deems it to be its duty to protest against the assumption of some of the members of the Court, that the motive of this Council in instituting the proceedings was other than the simple fulfilment of a duty imposed upon it by Parliament for the due protection of the public.

Mr. Atkins seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

THE NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

The result of the election and appointment of chairman and vice-chairman, as already reported in this journal, were formally brought before the Council.

Mr. BOTTLE said that in one of the reports reference was made to reporting the proceedings of the executive. He presumed that that referred to the reports to the Council.

Mr. BAILDON said that there was a little ambiguity in the report. (Laughter.) It did not refer to the reports to the Council, but to a motion which had been made regarding the publication in the press of reports of the meetings of the executive. The matter had not yet been considered.

Mr. BOTTLE said that he quite understood that, and maintained that any report for publication or otherwise must come before the Council in the first instance.

The PRESIDENT remarked that Mr. Bottle was about right. There might not be sufficient for a press report—at any rate committees did not generally publish reports.

Mr. BAILDON again explained, and said that the reports contemplated would not interfere with the reports to the Council, whereupon Mr. SCHACHT pointed out that Mr. Bottle's point was a question of constitution. If the executive was a committee they should do as committees did; if independent, they could do as they liked. Considering the matter as a whole, and in view of the fact that the executive had got a new constitution, he looked with some interest to further views from the President on the question.

The PRESIDENT said that the constitution of the executive did not authorise full reports, and Mr. BOTTLE remarked that it was all right so long as there was no friction.

Mr. BAILDON said that he had gathered from a remark previously made at the table that members would be glad to see reports so that they might know how they were going on in the North. What he thought useful for publication would be a mere *précis* of proceedings.

Mr. SOUTHALL: Should the reports not be just like those of meetings of local associations? (No, no!)

Mr. BOTTLE: That is just the difference. We asked them if they would not be a local association; but they preferred being a committee of this Council.

The PRESIDENT: If there are to be reporters present to take press reports, that would be going outside the rights of the executive.

Mr. BAILDON again pointed out the intention of the proposal—it was still a proposal, and nothing had been done. He was perfectly conscious how the matter stood in respect to the Council, and would endeavour to arrange it on constitutional lines.

Mr. ATKINS remarked that he was sure that the matter was perfectly safe in Mr. Baidon's hands, and the matter dropped.

JACOB BELL SCHOLARSHIPS.

Twenty-three candidates competed, and eight obtained sufficient marks to entitle them to scholarships, but only two are at the disposal of the Council, and these were awarded to—

WILLIAM APPLETON SALTER and ALFRED MANDER.

The following are the mottoes of the candidates next in order:—

Qui credit posse potest.
Vita siue litteris est mors.
Dum spiro spero.

Nil desperando.
Nihil siue Labore.
Radix.

HANBURY MEDAL.

The committee (consisting of the Presidents of the Chemical, Linnean, and Pharmaceutical Societies, of the Pharmaceutical Conference, and Dr. Inglis Clark) recommended that this medal should be awarded to Brigade-Surgeon Dymock, the eminent Indian pharmacognosist.

CONCLUDING BUSINESS.

Some correspondence having been read, and a list of delegates to the Conference drawn up, the SECRETARY intimated that he had placed on the register the name of Mr. Richard Campion, Birmingham, who was in business before 1868.

JULY EXAMINATIONS.

London.

	Candidates	Passed	Failed
Major	15	13	2
Minor	296	90	116
Modified	1	1	0

Edinburgh.

Major	1	1	0
Minor	60	28	32
Preliminary	370	196	174

This concluded the business, the PRESIDENT intimating that the Council would not meet until October.

The Board of Examiners for Scotland met in Edinburgh on July 21, 22, 26, 27, and 28, when the following were examined and declared qualified for registration as under:—

As a Pharmaceutical Chemist:—

Thomson, Isaac William, Edinburgh

As Chemists and Druggists:—

Ahcl, Peter Alex., Aberdeen	Hindman, John, Kirkintilloch
Airey, Geo. Richards, Manchester	Macdougall, Dugald, Greenock
Bailey, Henry, Edinburgh	McEwan, Donald, Edinburgh
Barclay, James Christian, Edinburgh	McKie, Robert, Chertlon-on-Medlock
Bentley, William, Liverpool	Nairn, James, Motherwell
Bruce, Harvey, Edinburgh	Ord, Bertram Thomas, Gateshead-on-Tyne
Caldwell, John, Belfast	Reid, James, Edinburgh
Chadwick, John Booth, Withington, Manchester	Robertson, William, Edinburgh
Dawson, Thomas, Edinburgh	Selby, Thomas James, Edinburgh
Drinkwater, Weston, Patricroft	Skinner, Donald M., Partick
Eyval, Thomas Brown, East Linton	Walker, Charles Herbert, Edinburgh
Fieldsend, Arthur, Manchester	Watt, Arthur, Ayr
Henderson, David James, Edinburgh	Young, William Fulton, Kilmar-nock
England, Herbert, Hyde	

Legal Reports.

A CITRIC ACID DISPUTE.

IMPORTANT EVIDENCE OF CUSTOM.

In the Lord Mayor's Court, Guildhall, on Thursday, the case of "Pickering v. Wilson" came on for trial before the Deputy-Judge (Mr. F. Roxburgh) and a jury. The case raised a question of much importance to members of the chemical and drug trade. The plaintiff, Mr. S. A. Pickering, a dealer in chemicals, at Dunster House, E.C., sued the defendant, Mr. S. F. Wilson, trading also as a chemical dealer, as Spencer, Wilson & Co., at Market Buildings, Mincing Lane.

MR. POWELL'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Powell was counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Lyon for the defendant. Mr. Powell, in opening the case to the jury, said that the action was brought to recover damages for not taking up a quantity of citric. Some time in December—about the 20th—of last year, Mr. Wilson came to Mr. Pickering and asked him if he could sell him some citric acid. The plaintiff said that he could, and accordingly a contract was entered into by which the plaintiff should sell to the defendant 5 tons of citric acid, at 1s. 10½d. per lb., to be of Lawes's, Sturge's, or Kemball's make; to be delivered monthly, from February to June inclusive, payment fourteen days' prompt, 6 per cent. discount. Now, Mr. Pickering, the plaintiff, as well as being a dealer, was also a broker, and by some mistake or other the contract was made out on a broker's form, which ought not to have been used. It was a mistake, but from the form of the pleadings he understood that some point would be made on that. But there was no doubt that that would be set at rest by the evidence which would be brought before them. He should tell the jury what was the meaning of the word "prompt." According to the custom of that branch of the chemical trade in which citric acid was sold, when goods

were to be delivered at certain months the price was to be paid fourteen days after delivery, if that day was a Saturday. But if the day happened to be a Sunday, then the payment must be made the day previous. If it fell on any other day but Saturday or Sunday, then it would be payable on the Saturday following. If, for example, a sale was made in March, and no instructions were given, then the money would be payable on the fourteenth day from the last day of March, with the same qualification with regard to Saturday. Now, in the contract in this particular case the first delivery was to have been made in February, and there was some difficulty about getting payment then. The delivery then was "Prompt, 19th March," and, after giving discount, the amount is carried forward at 197½s. In that month the defendant wrote back to the plaintiff to say that his buyer would not complete unless he knew the name of the maker of the acid. The plaintiff then sent back to say that the goods were of Kemball's make. Some correspondence then ensued, and eventually the cheque was paid. In the next month no order was given by the defendant for delivery. The whole of March passed and no order was received. Citric acid had gone down, and that would perhaps account for the defendant sending no order. The plaintiff sent an invoice, which in the trade implied two things—that the buyer must send his instructions at once, and that he would be held strictly to his bargain. The invoice was sent, and on it was "Prompt, 16th of April," which was the first Saturday after the fourteen days. On the 16th the plaintiff went across to the defendant for payment. The defendant, however, declined to pay the money because the acid was not delivered. The plaintiff then said that he could give the defendant a delivery order on Messrs. Lawes for three or four casks—equivalent to one ton—lying at Messrs. Smith's warehouse. The defendant, however, was very particular to get out of his bargain, as citric acid was still going down, and he declined to take the acid. Accordingly the plaintiff put the acid in the hands of Mr. Greenhough, and it was sold at the decreased price of 1s. 7½d. per lb., realising 168½l. 17s. 9d., against 210½l. 13s. 6d., which he should have received from the defendant, making 41½l. 15s. 9d., which he now claimed. From the pleadings, he (the learned counsel) believed it would be raised that the plaintiff was not a vendor, but that he was only an agent to buy. Another ground which would be raised upon the pleadings was that the acid which was offered in April was really intended for the March delivery. But that could not possibly affect the defendant. The real and only reason that the defendant declined to accept delivery was because he found he could buy in the market at a less price than he was bound to take delivery under the contract.

EVIDENCE FOR THE PLAINTIFF.

Mr. S. A. Pickering, the plaintiff, was then called. He said he had had considerable experience in the chemical trade. He acted both as a broker and as a dealer.

A Juryman: Are you a sworn broker?

Plaintiff: There is no such thing as a sworn broker now. I know of no broker in the citric acid trade who does not deal for himself as well.

Mr. Powell: In this matter with the defendant did you act as a dealer or as a broker?

Mr. Lyon: I object. You must take the written document, and that is a broker's contract. You said it was a mistake, but you must prove it.

Mr. Powell: Well, how did it come about?

Plaintiff: I saw Mr. Wilson, and he asked me if I could sell him some citric acid, and it ended in this contract.

Mr. Lyon: Perhaps it may be as well if the jury see that.

A Juryman: This is illegal. It must have a penny stamp on it. All brokers' contracts require penny stamps.

Mr. Powell: I quite agree with you, sir. The fact that it is without a stamp shows that it was not a brokerage transaction.

Mr. Lyon: But I must explain. I think it will be found that I am not disputing this contract in any way. It is rather my learned friend who disputes it.

Mr. Powell: I dispute that it is a contract for a sale as the agent of the defendant.

Mr. Lyon: That is the question between us.

The plaintiff, continuing, said that the defendant did take delivery in February. It was on March 19, and delivery was

made and payment given on that day. Plaintiff received no order from the defendant for the March delivery, so he sent in an invoice. There was a custom of the trade with regard to the sending of invoices. By that it was clearly understood that it meant asking for packing and delivery instructions. In the invoice the citric acid was described as "naked"—that was, unpacked. The acid was to be delivered at the works, and was to be Kemball's, Sturge's, or Lawes's make, at his option. "Prompt" in the citric acid trade meant the first Saturday after the expiry of fourteen days, unless the fourteenth day happened to be a Sunday, and then it would be the Saturday preceding. Where no instructions were sent payment was due on the prompt day. On April 1 plaintiff wrote to the defendant telling him that one ton was ready. He heard nothing more until April 18, when he received instructions late in the day from the defendant. He forwarded instructions to Messrs. Kemball. That week was Easter week, Monday was Bank Holiday, and Tuesday and Wednesday were always loose days.

Mr. Lyon: Not in the City; only in the suburbs. (Laughter.)

The plaintiff said that Kemball's did not deliver on Saturday, and it was therefore unreasonable to expect the acid to be delivered on that day. On the prompt day—the 13th—plaintiff sent his clerk to the defendant, and he came back without the cheque. Plaintiff then went on himself, and was told that the money would not be paid until delivery had been made. Plaintiff then offered him four casks (one ton) of Kemball's or a delivery order on Sturge's, but the defendant declined. According to the custom of the trade plaintiff was entitled to payment whether delivery had been made or not. He could not deliver on the prompt day if he did not get orders sufficiently early. He had frequently been paid for goods which had not been delivered under similar circumstances. On the following Tuesday plaintiff got the warrant, and his clerk took it to the defendant, but he would not give the cheque. On the 16th he wrote saying that except the money was paid he would have to realise and debit the defendant with the difference. Some correspondence then ensued with regard to a reference to arbitration, but it ended in nothing. The matter then went into his solicitor's hands, and the acid was sold by Mr. Greenhough, and the difference in the price was 41*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, which he now sought to recover.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lyon: He was to have received 197*l.* 8*s.* from the defendant. As a matter of fact, he had received 168*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* from Mr. Greenhough.

Mr. Lyon: Now, even if you are entitled to recover anything, which you are not, you cannot recover 41*l.*

Plaintiff: I don't know anything about those figures. I left them to my solicitors.

Mr. Lyon: Ah, you should never leave figures to lawyers. We know nothing about them.

Plaintiff: But you seem a pretty good hand at them.

Continuing, the plaintiff said that he was not a sworn broker, and he did not know that the defendant was a broker. He did not know that the defendant had never dealt for anybody else but clients in his life. The custom of the trade was not to put the name of the maker of the acid on the invoice. The name of Kemball was not on the invoice. The invoice was sent back, but it was not for a correction in that particular matter. By the custom of the trade he was entitled to demand payment on the prompt day, even if delivery had not been made. He had done it many times. A Mr. Bromlow, of 7 Mincing Lane, had paid him something on account on the prompt day, without delivery or without a warrant. On the 16th plaintiff offered to the defendant a warrant on Smith's warehouse, the very warehouse where the defendant wanted the acid; but the defendant would not take it. Plaintiff said he could easily obliterate the mark which would be on the casks, and put on them the right marks, BA 9-12. The acid which he tendered to the defendant was plaintiff's own property. He could not say when or where he purchased. Plaintiff had the warrant in his safe, and the acid was lying at the warehouse at Smith's. It might have been a month old, it might be a year, and then it would not have been old.

Mr. Lyon: When does citric acid become ancient and antique?

Plaintiff: You must ask the public analyst for an answer.

Mr. Lyon: Is it not a fact that on April 16, the important

date, Messrs. Kemball had no citric acid of yours which they were bound to deliver to your order?

Plaintiff: I can't answer that. Not a ton.

Mr. Lyon: You know that an admission has been made in this case by your solicitor, and Mr. Kemball is here. Do you know how much citric acid you had at Kemball's?

Plaintiff: I don't know.

Mr. Lyon: Not 15 cwt.?

Plaintiff: No, only a few, I think.

Mr. Lyon: Did you know that Mr. Wilson had his cheque already written out for you?

Plaintiff: I don't know.

Mr. Lyon: Do you doubt it? You know I have written evidence of that. Have you ever seen this cheque before?

Plaintiff: I can't see it there.

[The cheque with the counterfoils was handed to the jury.]

Mr. Lyon: Perhaps I ought to ask you this—Do you think that all Thursday and Friday was not time enough for Messrs. Kemball to pack one ton in four casks?

Plaintiff: It is an unreasonable time. The makers were very busy just then.

Mr. Lyon: Is it true that Messrs. Kemball do not deliver on Saturdays?

Plaintiff: They have told me so themselves.

Mr. Lyon: Do you know that a ton of citric acid was delivered from Kemball's on the same day to the same buyer—or, rather, to Mr. Wilson's buyer?

Plaintiff: I haven't the honour to know Mr. Kemball's buyer. I did not make inquiries. The manufacturer paid the carriage.

In re-examination the plaintiff said that citric acid would keep for years if it was of good make. The remaining deliveries for April, May, and June had been duly paid for by the defendant.

Mr. D. W. Greenhough (chemical broker, Mincing Lane) said that some time ago there was a Broker's Relief Act, by which a *bonâ fide* broker when he made it sufficiently known could do business on his own account. He had been in the trade since 1868. The usual discount was five per cent. Brokerage—selling—was 1 per cent. He had had many dealings in citric acid. It did not deteriorate in consequence of being a year old. He did not quite agree with Mr. Pickering as to his rendering of "prompt." The time for delivery was in the month stated in the account—not the prompt. The prompt had nothing to do with delivery.

Mr. Powell: You say that if goods were to be delivered in March they should be received in March?

Witness: Yes, asked for or tendered. We look upon an invoice as a tender.

A Juryman: Would they be paid for?

Witness: Only at the end of the prompt.

Mr. Powell: The money is due upon the prompt, whether the goods are delivered or not?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Powell: And the reason of that is that it is the fault of the person who buys not having asked for the delivery soon enough?

Witness: Yes. It was not necessary for the maker's name to be declared in the invoice. A ton of citric acid was a ton of citric acid, and no name was put on it unless it was specially desired and ordered. A buyer would sometimes say, "Whose make are you giving me to-day?" and then the seller would say, and, if necessary, a mark would be put on the invoice.

Cross-examined, Mr. Greenhough said that a buyer would be bound to pay on his prompt, whether he had got delivery or not. If he had not got delivery it would be his own fault for not ordering soon enough. A buyer was bound to pay on his prompt. He would not hand to the buyer any warrants, or anything showing title. He never gave warrants to regular or well-known buyers of citric acid. It was not usual. Neither did he give delivery orders. The money was paid, and the customer took delivery when he wanted it. Sometimes when the market was bad the customer allowed the acid to remain at the warehouse or maker's, waiting for a better market. He recognised an order of his own which was handed to him. It was an order to pack 70 kegs of citric acid given on a Wednesday afternoon, and asked to be ready on the following Friday afternoon. That might be an unreasonable time, but it was a special case.

Re-examined by Mr. Powell: You say that the defendant, as the customer, would be bound to pay on the prompt, whether he had had delivery or not?

Witness: Yes; we don't have any warrants. There are a great many people who are trying to make, for their own convenience, warrants to be handed over. They try to get the warrants to raise the money to pay for the things. They want to get the warrants, but we don't give them.

Mr. Powell: We have heard that this was Easter time, and not much notice had been given for delivery. Do you think the defendant had given a reasonable notice?

Mr. Lyon: I object. It is a double hypothesis, depending on human power and human volition. (Laughter.)

Mr. Christopherson, of 17 Great Tower Street, said that he was a dealer in citric acid. He was not a broker, but many people were brokers and dealers as well. But he was only a dealer. It was not the custom of the trade to deliver warrants when the money was paid. The money was due on the prompt day, whether the goods were delivered or not. If warrants were asked for by the customer they were, as a matter of courtesy, given, but the seller was not bound to give them.

Cross-examined: The time given by the defendant for delivery was unreasonable. It was not necessary for the buyer to have warrants as security after having paid his money, when he was dealing with a well-known man.

Mr. John A. Guthrie said he was in the chemical trade, and was on the Mincing Lane market. He had heard the evidence given by the other witnesses. He agreed. He had had ten years' experience. Mr. Pickering was one of the largest dealers in the citric trade, and there was no ground for saying that a buyer would have to be sure of his goods after paying his money. A buyer would have the whole of the month to get delivery. A tender was not equivalent to notice that the goods were at the buyer's disposal. The buyer would be entitled to the acid on March 30, and he should have given ample notice that he wanted it if he did want it.

Mr. Frank Delamare, clerk of the plaintiff, said that on April 16, he went to the defendant for the cheque, but did not get it. On the 19th he went with the warrants, but the defendant declined to take them.

Cross-examined: He was asked by the defendant, on the 16th, if the goods had gone down, and he replied that they had not.

That was the case for the plaintiff.

MR. LYON'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Lyon, in opening the case for the defendant, said he hoped to show the jury that the conduct of the defendant had been perfectly proper. The question here was one of contract. It was not a matter of vital commercial principle. His learned friend had introduced a little bit of prejudice when he said that the market for citric acid had gone down, and that that was the reason why the defendant had not taken delivery. That scarcely looked to be so, when it was taken into consideration that the other five tons out of the six had been delivered, accepted, and paid for without any dispute. The contract between the parties was a pure matter of business, and the dispute would have to be decided from a business point of view. Men traded with each other in business for profit, and when a market turned in their favour they were entitled to the benefit of that. When the price went down the plaintiff was, of course, anxious to hold the defendant to his bargain, and at the same time the defendant for his own protection was entitled to hold the plaintiff strictly to his bargain. He proposed to call evidence to show that it was the custom of the trade to give the name of the maker on the invoice. The plaintiff had himself elected to deliver Kemball's make out of the three kinds which were given him. The plaintiff had not done what he himself elected to do. He also proposed to call evidence to show that the seller could not force the buyer to accept delivery before the last day of the month. He asserted that when the buyer paid the money he was entitled to something which showed that he was the owner of the acid. He would call gentlemen in the trade to prove the custom—gentlemen of great probity. The plaintiff had himself admitted that Kemball had no goods of his which they were bound to deliver for the April delivery. He also admitted that the goods which Kemball had

were goods which they might by courtesy deliver, but which they were not bound to deliver. What followed? Why, that the plaintiff had not got to sell what he had undertaken to deliver on April 1 by passing Kemball's name. On the 13th plaintiff was showed the cheque, but the defendant wanted the goods. The plaintiff's own clerk admitted that the goods had not then gone down. The plaintiff says he offered a ton of citric acid, which might have been lying at Smith's warehouse for a month, or a year, or longer. He says he offered that stuff, whereas his contract was for the delivery of new stuff. Mr. Wilson was not bound to accept that. He (the learned counsel) asked the plaintiff if the ton he offered to lend was the ton which was old and antique, and not the ton which he had contracted to deliver, and the plaintiff said it was. The defendant clearly was not bound to accept delivery of that. With all possible respect for his learned friend, he had that morning been endeavouring to go through a system of mental gymnastics which was appalling. He had been endeavouring to persuade a jury in the City of London that a man was to part with his money without having his goods or something as a security. The defendant was in this matter acting as a broker. He had a half per cent. for his remuneration, and for that remuneration he was expected to run the risk of paying his money away without goods or without some security. He (the learned counsel) had evidence to prove that the plaintiff had offered 15 cwt. of old and antique citric acid, as to the quality of which they were referred by the plaintiff to the public analyst, as security for a cheque valued at as many golden sovereigns as were represented on the face of it. That was not business, and he asked the jury to say so.

EVIDENCE FOR THE DEFENCE.

Mr. S. C. Wilson (the defendant) examined by Mr. Lyon, said he carried on business at the London Commercial Sale Rooms as a broker, and nothing but a broker. He knew the plaintiff as a broker, and dealt with him as a broker. The form of the contract was the ordinary one between broker and broker. He had paid for and taken delivery of the last three deliveries. On each of those occasions warrants were given. He knew of no custom in the citric acid trade to pay cheques without the goods or warrants being delivered. He was willing to have paid for the March delivery if a warrant had been given him. He had drawn the cheque on the previous day, and as he could not get a warrant or the goods he did not pay it over. It was his contention that the invoice he received should have disclosed the name of the maker on the invoice. The invoice was popularly called a tender in the citric acid trade. It was the first notice of being ready. In a similar contract like this the plaintiff himself told him that he would deliver on the last day of the month; but according to the custom the seller had the option to deliver at any time in the month. In consequence of not receiving a name on the invoice he sent it back, and it came back again with the correction made. He passed the corrected invoice on to his buyer. On April 13 he sent instructions to the plaintiff. There was an obligation on the seller to provide a warrant, because it was the only document on which payment could be enforced. A delivery order on Smith's warehouse would be worth nothing, except on the faith of the signature. He had been in the business since 1867. He was in business, and then he went to Lewis & Peat, and afterwards he went into business again. Two hours to half a day would be plenty of time to pack a ton of citric acid in four casks. He gave the plaintiff two days' notice without the Saturday. He had never heard of the regulation of Kemball's not to deliver on Saturday. Plaintiff came to him when he would not pay, and tendered his (defendant's) own delivery order for 15 cwt. of Lawes's make, which defendant had himself given to someone else. This was offered merely as a loan. He could not have offered Lawes's make to Mr. Magnus, his buyer, because he had already advised him of Kemball's make. On the 16th defendant wrote to Mr. Magnus, and on that date the plaintiff offered to lend him the 15 cwt., and 5 cwt. which he was to get from somebody else. On the 18th he received a letter from the defendant that the one ton of citric acid was then ready for delivery, and the warrant could be obtained against cheque. He had never known a case of any man having to pay his cheque without receiving something.

Cross-examined: He had been in the citric acid trade for twenty years. He had been with Messrs. Lewis & Peat. They dealt in 248 articles. He was in the drug department, which included chemicals. He had made contracts for Messrs. Lewis & Peat in citric acid. Mr. Christopherson would remember it, if he had not left the court. He commenced dealing in citric acid and drugs in 1867. He dealt with the plaintiff as a broker. He suggested that the plaintiff was instructed to sell for somebody else in exactly the same way that he himself was instructed to buy for somebody else. That was how brokers did their business.

The learned Judge: I don't know whether there is any importance attached to this about his being a broker. I understand Mr. Lyon has waived any technical objection about his being a broker.

Mr. Lyon: Had I taken any technical objection to Mr. Pickering being able to maintain this action, I should have said so at the close of his case. I use it here for corroboration.

Cross-examination continued: He was a broker, and acted as such. He did not tell Mr. Pickering that he was doing for another broker. That was not the custom. They did not act as principals, or he would have been charged brokerage. The usual discount in the trade was 5 per cent. It was quite a matter of arrangement; it might be 5, 6, or 7 per cent. All the gentlemen who had been examined had no doubt paid all three as well as himself. Mr. Pickering's contract was 6 per cent. He had asked Mr. Pickering to give him an extra 1 per cent. He himself did not work for nothing. He allowed half of the extra 1 per cent. to Mr. Magnus, and kept the other half. He did not enter into contracts of that kind so often as Mr. Pickering. His transactions in citric acid were not very large—about ten since December 1886. He got a commission for buying the goods, and the other gentleman (the seller's broker) got a commission for selling them.

A Jurymen: Why didn't you go to the sellers direct?

Defendant: Because you don't know the sellers.

Mr. Powell: Do you say that plaintiff was your agent?

Defendant: Yes. The seller's broker was buying it for him, not selling to him. They often went to each other and asked "Have you any citric for sale?" and he did that on this occasion. That was what he understood by a man being your broker. He was entitled to send his order for delivery about three days before the prompt. Not at any time.

Mr. Powell: Don't you know it is a most uncommon thing in the market to object to deliver when it is asked?

Defendant: But there was no tender made before April 13. It should be paid directly it was delivered, even when there was a prompt of fourteen days.

Mr. Powell: Then you don't agree with these gentlemen who have been called by the plaintiff?

Mr. Lyon: Yes he does. It is just what they did say, that they can have delivery any day in March—a *fortiori* any day after March.

Mr. Powell: Do you say that payment should be made before the prompt?

Defendant: Yes; directly the seller delivers the goods. It was usual, on the last day of the month, to send the tender invoice. He did not believe that his counsel had said it was equivalent to a tender. The purchaser had three days before the delivery; but it was not the custom. He said three days because it was a reasonable time. The transactions in citric about the time of the prompt would take place fourteen days before the time of the prompt in order to make that the prompt day. There was a great deal of business done about the time of the regular monthly prompt day. He had been often asked to have warrants delivered against cheques. He had greater experience than many in the room because of being with Lewis & Peat, who had the largest experience in the Lane.

Mr. Powell: Not in this kind of goods.

Defendant: But it is a question of delivery you are putting to me. The custom of Messrs. Lewis & Peat is that they deliver goods against a cheque, and if the buyer does not want to take the goods up, and he pays a certain deposit, they hold the goods, paying the deposit into the bank. That was the custom of the drug trade, and every other trade. Mr. Pickering did not tell him he would go to Messrs. Smith's and erase the marks on the casks that were there,

and put on them the marks which he wanted. That would be against all order and rule. Mr. Pickering had told him he could get 15 cwt. of Lawes's acid, and he refused to take it.

The defendant having been briefly re-examined by Mr. Lyon,

Mr. Daniel Magnus was called, and said he carried on business at 3 Cross Lane. In December, 1886, he entered into contracts to purchase ten tons of citric acid, five being through the defendant. He had been in business since 1868. He was acquainted with contracts of this kind. The seller was not bound to accept delivery before the last day of the month. He had an arbitration award to that effect. The buyer here in this case was not bound to pay without a warrant being handed. A three days' notice to the seller was ample notice to deliver. On April 14, one day later than the plaintiff's notice, witness gave notice to Messrs. Gray & Co. for five tons also on Messrs. Kemball for the same prompt, and it was delivered. On the prompt he had a cheque ready to pay Mr. Wilson. The cheque was attached to the invoice. It was the custom to declare the name of the maker. A tender of Lawes's make was not a compliance with the contract. Even if a fire had taken place at Kemball's, the buyer would have had to take the risk. A warrant was compulsory upon the cheque being paid. Mr. Christopherson, one of the plaintiff's witnesses, had been arbitrator in a similar dispute, and had ruled that a delivery order was no good, and that a warrant was compulsory. One hour would have been plenty to have packed one ton of citric acid, and a warrant could have been obtained at Messrs. Smith's warehouse while waiting.

Cross-examined: Witness bought the acid for a customer. The plaintiff was a "bear" seller, and witness did not want him to know that he was buying. Witness sent the defendant to the plaintiff. Witness's customer refused to take delivery of the acid because it was one day late. The fact was that the plaintiff was as a broker speculating in an article which he did not hold, and when delivery was required he could not get it. Citric acid was an article which was much speculated. His client had no desire at all to get out of the contract which had been made. He did not know that the plaintiff had offered to give a ton in place of what had not come forward. He was known on the market as a speculator in this article, but he had a right to do as he liked as he did not act in any way as a broker.

Re-examined: He had taken delivery of the remaining parcels, and had paid for them at the contract price, although the market price was much lower.

A Jurymen: Was a warrant handed with the remaining parcels?

Witness: Yes; cheque against warrants.

Mr. Peter Probst said he was in business as a commission agent at 4 Fenchurch Street Buildings. He had been twenty years in the citric acid trade. A seller could not take a cheque without giving a warrant. Sometimes a buyer wants to let his goods remain at the maker's, and then he pays the cheque and takes a delivery order against the makers. Or if a warrant is ordered, then payment was only made against the warrant or delivery. A ton to be packed in four casks was not much of an undertaking. A warrant could be obtained from Messrs. Smith's in half an hour.

Cross-examined: He had been in the trade a good many years. He knew Mr. Greenhough. He was a man of considerable experience, and so also was Mr. Christopherson.

Mr. J. B. Gray said he was a commission merchant and agent at 17 Fenchurch Street. He had been in the citric acid trade for 35 years, the whole extent of his business life. On April 13 he gave notice to Messrs. Kemball, Bishop & Co. to deliver goods for the prompt.

Mr. Powell asked if such evidence was admissible.

The learned Judge said he thought it had gone too far now. Other instances had been put, and there was no reason why this particular evidence should be shut out.

Mr. Lyon: I will obviate any possible objection. Is three days ample time to deliver?

Witness: I should think so. The case referred to was an instance. A buyer was bound to pay under a contract without the warrant or the goods.

Mr. Powell (cross-examining): You say you have been 35 years in this trade?

Witness: I have been thirty-five years in the City, and twenty years in this trade.

That was the case for the defence.

THE SUMMING UP.

Mr. Lyon then addressed the jury for the defendant. He said he would only say a few words. There was abundant evidence to show that three days was an ample time to deliver the acid, and there was also plenty of evidence to show that the seller was not entitled to the money until a warrant had been handed over, or delivery effected.

Mr. Powell followed for the plaintiff. He pointed out the difference between the evidence of custom which had been given on behalf of the plaintiff and of the defendant. The witnesses for the defendant had said that no payment need be made until a warrant had been handed over, or until delivery. The witnesses for the plaintiff said that payment must be made on the prompt day, whether delivery had been made or not, and it rested with the buyer when he ordered. But the witnesses for the defendant, when asked whether they knew of a case to prove their statement, said they did not. Then there was also the statement of Mr. Pickering and Mr. Greenhough that Messrs. Kemball did not deliver on Saturday. Mr. Kemball was actually in Court, and yet had not been called to contradict that statement.

Mr. Lyon said he did not care about that at all. There were two clear days in which the plaintiff might have delivered.

Mr. Powell said that with regard to the figures he was quite content to take those which his learned friend had quoted.

The learned Judge then addressed the jury. He said: This is an action brought by the plaintiff with respect to one instalment only of a contract where the goods were deliverable every month by equal monthly instalments. It was made in December last year. The one that ought to have been delivered in March is the one now sued upon. The only question is whether the plaintiff is entitled to recover anything in respect of this instalment—whether there was any delivery or not. That is the case he makes out first, whether according to the custom of the trade, the defendant not having given him any instructions for delivery, he says he was entitled on prompt day to payment, whether he had delivered any document or not. Then the second point, he says there was what was equivalent to a delivery—that he went to the defendant and saw him and offered him 20 cwt. of Kemball's, which he said was lying at Kemball's factory to his order. He admitted it was not new, but he considered it was an implied term that the defendant should have new citric acid. And he further says he offered him 15 cwt. of Lawes's as security, which he refused to accept. I don't know what your view of that may be, but it seemed to me to be trying to make some arrangement in order to enable the plaintiff to deliver on the Monday or Tuesday. The plaintiff further says that if he did not make delivery of the goods it was rendered impossible by the act of the defendant, in that the defendant did not give me a reasonable notice, and that the defendant rendered the fulfilment of the contract impossible. If that is so the defendant would be responsible for it, and the plaintiff would be entitled to recover the money as if he had delivered to the defendant and the defendant had refused to accept. Therefore the really most material question in this case is whether the defendant gave reasonable notice to the plaintiff that he wanted delivery of the goods. The notice was admittedly only given on the 13th for delivery on the 16th, and the plaintiff says he did not receive that notice until very late on the 13th. Then several witnesses had been called, and the cases seem specific as to whether or not an order given for goods in this trade—it only applies to this trade—whether orders given three days before have been complied with, and it appears that in many instances they have; and Mr. Magnus tells you that with regard to this very contract, some was delivered from Messrs. Kemball's. If the plaintiff had notice that delivery was required, and that he ought to have delivered in order to obtain his cheque, or instead, he ought to have given a warrant to obtain his cheque, then he cannot recover. He, on the other hand, says he was entitled to payment whether the goods were delivered or not, or without giving any warrants or title in exchange for the cheque. There is one other point—Mr. Powell referred to it in his reply—that the goods ought to

have been ready. One of the witnesses for the defendant gave you a reason why he mentioned three days, viz. that, according to this contract, the goods should have been ready for delivery on the last day of the month, and then, if you give them three days' notice prior to the day on which you require delivery, that would be sufficient. "But," says Mr. Powell in answer to that, "that is making no allowance for packing." You cannot assume that the goods will be marked off and ready for delivery. Then you must go back to the evidence of the other witness, whether three days is sufficient to measure off and pack four casks—one ton. Some of the witnesses vary much as to what is sufficient for that purpose. Therefore, if you are of opinion that a reasonable notice was given on the 13th, then, if you are satisfied that there was no delivery made, or anything equivalent to a delivery, then the plaintiff cannot recover, and you must find a verdict for the defendant. If, on the other hand, you are satisfied that the plaintiff has fulfilled his contract to the defendant, then the amount of damages will be the difference between the price he ought to have been paid by the defendant and the price he really did receive. 23*l.* 10*s.*, I make it.

Mr. Powell : 29*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*

Mr. Lyon : That is so. There was question of warehousing and insurance.

THE JURY COULD NOT AGREE.

The jury announced that they were unable to agree to a verdict, and accordingly they retired.

Upon re-entering the Court they again said they could not agree.

The learned Judge asked if there was any point on which he could render assistance. They should remember that it was for the buyer to ask for delivery: It was not for the seller to send in the goods.

The jury said it was impossible to agree. They were of quite opposite opinions.

The learned Judge then reluctantly discharged the jury without giving a verdict.

CHEMICAL PATENTS.

IN the Supreme Court of Judicature on Wednesday—the Court of Appeal, composed of Lords Justices Cotton and Fry—an application in the matter of *A. G. Kurtz & Co. v. Peter Spence & Co.* came on for leave to appeal from an order of Mr. Justice Chitty made in August, 1886. The plaintiffs are chemical manufacturers, of St. Helens, in the county of Lancaster, and the defendants are chemical manufacturers, carrying on business at Manchester. The action is for alleged infringement of patent. The defendants are owners of certain letters patent, dated August 11, 1882, for "improvements in the manufacture of alum and other salts of alumina," and the plaintiffs are assignees of a patent granted to Josiah Wycliffe Kynaston, on August 12, 1882, for "an invention and improvement in the manufacture of certain chemicals, and in the purification of iron," and under this patent they sold a substance known as sulphate of alumina. The defendants alleged that Kynaston's patent would be an infringement of theirs, and threatened legal proceedings against plaintiffs if they worked the patent. The plaintiffs thereupon brought an action to restrain the defendants from uttering threats against them and their customers. The action was brought under the 32nd section of the Trade Marks Act, 1883, giving a right to anybody aggrieved by threats to recover "such damages, if any, as may have been caused thereby, if the alleged manufacture to which the threats relate is not in fact an infringement of any legal rights of the party making the threats." The plaintiffs' original statement of claim contained the allegation that the defendants' patent was invalid, and, on a motion, Mr. Justice Chitty held that the plaintiffs could not question the validity of the defendants' patent, and ordered the words "and moreover the said Spence's patent is invalid" to be struck out of the pleadings. The plaintiffs did not appeal against that decision, but last week, after the opinion expressed by the Lords Justices in the case of *Challender v. Royle*, the plaintiffs applied before Mr. Justice Kekewich (into whose list the action has been transferred) for leave to amend the pleadings. The application was re-

fused, hence the application before the Lords Justices on Wednesday.

Mr. H. Fletcher Moulton, Q.C. (Mr. Lawson with him), admitted that the plaintiffs were seeking an indulgence, and that he could not oppose the court making, as the price of such indulgence, an order that they should pay all the costs incurred through their being out of time. He submitted that, following the decision in *Challender v. Royle*, the plaintiffs were entitled to challenge the validity of the defendants' patent, in order to have the question of the infringement properly tried. The case was a very important one, and the question of invalidity must of necessity be mixed up with that of infringement.

Mr. Aston, Q.C., and Mr. Chadwyck Healy, opposed the application.

Lord Justice Cotton said: This is an application for leave to appeal against the interlocutory order of Mr. Justice Chitty of August 12, against which there was no appeal, and that decided a question of considerable importance to the plaintiffs, who had brought an action to restrain the defendants from threatening them, Mr. Justice Chitty having decided that the plaintiffs could not raise the point that the defendants' patent was invalid. Within the last fortnight, I and the Lord Justice Bowen expressed the opinion that, under the 32nd section of the Patents Act, the question of validity of a patent must be raised when an infringement, as in this case, is called in question; but there having been no appeal on the part of the plaintiffs from the decision of Mr. Justice Chitty in August last, I am of opinion that we ought not now to relieve the plaintiffs from the effects of their delay. The only fair way of relieving them now is to give them liberty to dismiss this action with costs, but without prejudice to their recommending a fresh one.

Mr. Chadwyck Healy: And I am not estopped from any rights which I may have under the 32nd section of the Patents Act?

Lord Justice Cotton: Certainly not.

Lord Justice Fry concurred.

Subsequently Mr. Moulton applied before their Lordships to rescind Mr. Justice Kekewich's order, refusing to give the plaintiffs leave to amend their statement of claim. He said the action could not be tried before November, eminent chemical experts being retained on both sides, to give evidence as to the properties of oxide of manganese.

Mr. Aston, Q.C., opposed the application.

Their Lordships reserved judgment.

THE APOLLINARIS COMPANY v. HERRFELDT & CAMPBELL.

A MOTION was made on Friday, July 29, before Mr. Justice Chitty, sitting in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, for an injunction restraining the defendants, who are the agents of the Kronthal Apollinis Company from selling mineral waters in this country in bottles labelled "Apollinis Water," and so labelled as to induce the public to believe that they were purchasing the mineral waters of the plaintiff company.

Mr. Romer, Q.C., and Mr. Cullen appeared for the plaintiff company, and Mr. Theodore Aston, Q.C., and Mr. Moreshead appeared for the defendants.

The plaintiffs' case was that they bottle and sell the mineral waters from a mineral spring called Apollinaris, in Rhenish Prussia. The defendants are the agents for mineral waters from the Kronthal springs in Germany, the name of which, in 1876, was changed to "Apollinis," and since then the defendants have labelled their water "Apollinis," and sold it as such. The plaintiffs, finding the water so sold in the English market, brought their action. The defendants set up a use of the name for nearly eleven years, and the judgment of a German court entitling the Kronthal Company to call their spring Kronthal Apollinis.

His Lordship, in granting an injunction as asked, said the Kronthal Company had, since 1876, when the reputation of the plaintiff company was established, altered the name of one of their wells for the purpose of having a description something like the plaintiffs', and the evidence showed that they were going on insidiously to approach an appearance of the plaintiffs' water. Being of opinion that what the

defendants had done was done for the purpose of deception, his Lordship made the order for an injunction until the trial or further order.

THE DENTISTS' REGISTER.

IN the Court of Appeal, on Monday, judgment was given in the appeal by the General Medical Council against the decision of Mr. Justice Mathew and Mr. Justice A. L. Smith granting a *mandamus* ordering the Council to restore Mr. H. F. Partridge's name to the Dentists' Register. The facts of the case have already been fully referred to in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* (vol. xxx. pp. 285 and 735). It appears that in 1878 Mr. Partridge received the licence of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, on the strength of which he was placed on the Dentists' Register, although he was also eligible as being in practice before the passing of the Act. The College withdrew the diploma in 1885, and this having been brought to the notice of the Medical Council, they directed his name to be removed from the Dentists' Register.

In the Divisional Court it was argued on behalf of the Council that section 11 of the Dentists' Act bound them to keep a register, and that that must mean a correct register, and as the diploma by virtue of which Mr. Partridge got registered had been taken away, he was not entitled to be on the register. It was argued, on the other hand, for Mr. Partridge, that the Medical Council had only power to erase his name for some cause specified in section 13, which provides that where a registered person has been convicted of an offence, which if committed in England would be a felony or misdemeanour, or been guilty of any infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect, that person shall be liable to have his name erased from the register, and this view commended itself to the justices before named.

Mr. Kennedy, Q.C., and Mr. Muir Mackenzie appeared for the Council, and after they had spoken, without calling upon Mr. Finlay, Q.C., and Mr. Lyon, who appeared for the respondent, the Court dismissed the appeal.

The Master of the Rolls said that the Medical Council had erased the applicant's name from the register simply upon the ground that his diploma had been taken away by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and without any inquiry by the General Council under sections 13 and 15 of the Dentists' Act, 1878. Whether they had power to do so depended upon the terms of that Act. Section 6, which provided as to the qualifications of a person entitled to be registered, dealt with the qualification at the moment of registration. "To be registered" meant "to be put on the register." Section 7 showed that that was the meaning of those words. That disposed of the meaning attempted to be placed on section 11. The first part of section 11 must apply to the time of putting the name on the register. Subsection 3 dealt with a "copy" of the register, and required a correct copy to be printed every year. Sections 12 and 13 dealt with alterations in the register itself. Under section 13 a person's name might be erased from the register where he had been guilty of (among other things) disgraceful conduct in a professional respect. The Medical Council exercised their powers of erasing names under sections 13 and 15. Those sections showed that the power of erasure was a judicial power given to the Medical Council, and confined to those matters into which they could make inquiries—namely, those cases specified in section 13. If disgraceful professional conduct was proved, the Council must erase the name. The mere fact that the local medical body had struck him off their register and taken away his diploma was no ground for the General Council erasing his name from their register. The principle of law applicable was that, as the Dentists' Register was instituted by the Act of 1878, everything in relation to it must be looked for in the Act alone. His Lordship added that the *mandamus* must go, but the fact of its going would not take away the power of the Council to exercise their jurisdiction under sections 13 and 15, and if on inquiry the Council came to the conclusion that the applicant had, by breaking the conditions imposed upon him by the local medical body, been guilty of disgraceful professional conduct (and if he wilfully broke the condition, his professional conduct might be thought disgraceful) they would erase his name from the register.

The Lords Justices gave judgment to the same effect.

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SEE ADVERTISEMENT, PAGE 19.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL.

THE August meeting of the Council is generally a long one, for it precedes an off-month when the members are either rustivating, mountaineering, or conferring together on matters of more practical interest than the frequently wearisome business which they are called upon to transact monthly. Wednesday's business was not highly entertaining. Half of the five hours' sederunt was spent under the flag, and the livelier and public discussions were unexpected and trivial. Before the proceedings commenced, Mr. Butt very neatly accounted for his position on the poll at the last election—he has not hitherto talked enough in public, but he has done harder work in committees. If that is the secret to unchequered success at the poll Mr. Evans's seat at the council-table is safe as long as he chooses to take it. He does not make long speeches, but he is gifted with the talent of provoking long discussions. For instance, on Wednesday he got up to apologise for something warm that had taken place at the Finance Committee meeting on the previous evening, and soon after he sat down it transpired that the dispute had to do with a charge of 98% for giving the outside of 17 Bloomsbury Square a single coat of paint; but the whole question of the manner of passing accounts was involved, and it leaked out that the Finance Committee's duties consist in formally approving of the written statement which is placed before them. Mr. Evans was not alone in his disapproval of this system, and it was generally agreed that more economical principles must be observed, and a better system of checking accounts adopted. These reforms are now very necessary for the welfare of the Society, but it would be better that the Council should modify their "pound foolish" system, rather than work entirely on the proverbial lines.

After this business was concluded there were several blank periods for the public, which culminated in the appointment of Mr. Joseph R. Green as Professor of Botany to the Society. Mr. Green is one of fourteen candidates, all of whom are known more or less to the scientific world by their work and writings. The new professor is a graduate in science of the London University and a Bachelor of Arts, Cambridge. At present he is demonstrator to the Professor of Physiology at Cambridge, and holds the Scholarship in Botany at Trinity College there. He contributed two rather remarkable papers to the Royal Society last year. In the first, on the "Proteid Substances in Latex," he gives an account of an investigation of the latex of various apocynaceous and sapotaceous plants, as the result of which he proved the existence therein of (a) a dialysable proteid resembling peptone; (b) hemialbumose; (c) albumose; (d) albumin; and (e) globulin—all of which substances possessed characteristics more or less distinctive from those which were previously observed. The second paper—which, by the way, has been considered of such merit as to warrant its publication in the "Philosophical Transactions"—was on "The Changes in the Proteids in the Seed which accompany Germination." In this he proves that in the seeds of the lupin when germinating there exists a proteolytic ferment which converts fibrin into peptone. Such investigations as these are on the borderland of pharmacy, and sufficiently indicate the new Professor's ability to deal with many pharmaceutical problems which require solution. School matters occupied the attention of the Council for a time. Mr. John Thomas receives the blue ribbon of the craft—the Pereira medal. A lady

pharmacist, Miss Buchanan, is a good second to him, and takes the silver medal. She is the first of her sex who has achieved this distinction. One of our "Corner for Students" men, Mr. C. B. Gilson, takes the bronze medal. The Hanbury medal, which is awarded once every two years, is given to Brigade-Surgeon Dymock, who has done most excellent work in investigating the materia medica of Western India, and is well worthy of the medal which commemorates the life-work of Daniel Hanbury.

From these pleasant duties the Council proceeded in committee to legal matters. The decision in the Leith Depôt case was the principal item for consideration, and the future action of the Council in regard to the new principle was discussed. It was explained that owing to the charge being a criminal one, Scotch law does not allow of an appeal from the High Court of Justiciary, so that the question of company pharmacy is definitely decided, in Scotland at least, against the educated and skilled body which the Pharmacy Act has created. This is an unfortunate ending to the Scotch procedure, and a bad beginning for the proceedings in England which the Council have had under contemplation. Meanwhile, it is practically resolved to do nothing in regard to testing the principle in the English law courts, although the President declared that it might form a subject for future consideration. Something more definite than this is required, for until the matter is decided one way or other in English law courts there will be uncertainty as to how the principle of the Leith case applies to pharmacy in England—an uncertainty which even Mr. Schacht's hit at Lord Young will not modify. The interest in the day's business should have ceased here, but the executive of the North British Branch was drawn into shallow water before the proceedings closed. The executive has very little business to do, but those who are possibly unaware of the fact have requested published reports of the proceedings as they occur. Mr. Bottle points out that the executive being a committee can report only to the Council, and not directly to the press. The Council generally acquiesced in this view, and so begins the pinching of the shoe.

THE DRAWBACK ON SPIRITUOUS PREPARATIONS.

LAST week the Chemical Section of the London Chamber of Commerce resolved to memorialise the Excise and Customs Boards to establish a system of drawback on spirituous tinctures prepared for export in the United Kingdom. Nor is this all. The committee which was appointed some months ago by the Chemical section of the Chamber to investigate the condition of the British export trade in spirituous preparations, and plan a scheme for the improvement of that industry, have actually drafted a proposal for presentation to the authorities which, they think, will restore to this country a trade at present in imminent danger of falling altogether into the hands of our German competitors.

The regulations affecting the manufacture and exportation of spirituous preparations in the principal foreign countries where that industry is carried on were fully described in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at the beginning of this year, and it is satisfactory to know that there is a prospect of the removal of obstacles which have long seriously handicapped our export druggists in their competition with foreign rivals. The scheme proposed to be submitted to the attention of the authorities has been drawn up by the sub-committee of the Chemical section of the Chamber of Commerce, Messrs. David Howard (Howards & Sons), Thos. Tyrer (May & Baker), and Chas. Umney (Wright, Layman & Umney). The memorandum in which their views are embodied, after enu-

merating the many obstacles with which British exporters of spirituous preparations have to contend, proposes that manufacturers in this country should be allowed to send spirituous preparations made by them for export from duty paid alcohol to certain bonded warehouses, for examination and testing by the Customs authorities. The latter would then ascertain the amount of alcohol contained in the shipment and reimburse to the exporters the amount of the duty paid by them on the alcohol employed in the preparation. This scheme it will be seen would involve not merely the repeal of the Customs minute now existing, which forbids the manufacture for export, with duty-free spirit, in a bonded warehouse, of any spirituous preparations except perfumery. To the repeal of that minute, it is thought, the Customs authorities would not strongly object, but even its abolition could not much benefit the London manufacturers, who would still be compelled to go through the entire process of manufacture of their preparations at a bonded warehouse, situated, in most cases, at an inconvenient distance from their places of business, while to provincial manufacturers the stipulation that the goods must be prepared in a bonded warehouse would render the concession entirely useless.

The adoption of the German system, by which manufacturers can make their preparations at their own works, and, upon consigning them to a bonded warehouse at the port of shipment, and having the alcoholic strength ascertained by the customs officials, obtain repayment of the duty previously charged on the alcohol contained in the preparation, would place our manufacturers upon equal footing with their competitors. The Customs authorities might indicate warehouses for this purpose at the principal ports of the United Kingdom, and a small charge might be made to cover the trouble of inspecting the shipments. If the inspection is carefully carried out there is scarcely any possibility of defrauding the Exchequer, even if there were a disposition to do so, and the extra work entailed upon the Customs officers would be richly balanced by the gain of a not unimportant branch of business to the industrial community. It is suggested that the shipments on which drawback is claimed shall reach the place of inspection at least three clear days before shipment, and that the exporters shall be given an opportunity, after testing of the goods by the Customs officers, to re-seal and re-label such bottles as have been opened by the latter. The Chamber of Commerce committee suggest 50 lbs. as the minimum quantity upon which drawback should be allowed, and to this there can be no exception, as a minimum quantity must be stipulated so as to save the Customs officers the worry of inspecting trivial shipments, but in the interests of the smaller manufacturers the minimum figure should certainly be taken as low as possible.

Another important recommendation in the scheme provides that, in shipments where tinctures, spirits, &c., are made according to B.P. formulæ, the manufacturer may forward the goods to the bonded warehouse accompanied by a declaration to the effect that they are made according to a given formula, upon which declaration the Customs officials may grant the drawback. Should the preparations exported be prepared according to formulæ of former editions of the B.P. or private receipts, the percentage of alcohol by weight or by volume should be stated on the bottle.

The scheme appears to afford a workable basis, and, if adopted, would no doubt prove of considerable benefit to British manufacturers of spirituous preparations, without entailing any loss whatever to the revenue. The scheme makes no mention of articles of perfumery; but the authorities, if they can see their way to adopt the facilities suggested with regard to tinctures and other medicinal preparations, cannot certainly object to extend the same boon to

manufacturers of perfumery. No proposals with regard to chloroform and ether have been made thus far. It is suggested that a separate scheme should be drawn up; but consideration of this part of the reference has thrown almost insuperable difficulties in the way of a workable scheme.

At present British manufacturing druggists are compelled to have tinctures, liniments, and other alcoholic preparations ordered of them from abroad prepared at Hamburg, whence such articles are shipped to London in bond to be exported again to the colonial consumers. Assuming even that the Hamburg manufacturers adhere in every respect to the formulæ given them, this state of things would scarcely be satisfactory to the prestige of the British drug trade. The system has resulted in the creation in Germany of a thriving industry, which, but for the absurd regulations of the British excise law, might flourish in our own country. But leaving this feature entirely out of the question, the manner in which the export shipments are prepared at Hamburg is said to be frequently most unsatisfactory, and to occasion loud complaints on the part of our colonial customers, many of whom object to have their preparations made up abroad.

It would, no doubt, be to the advantage of any scheme that, prior to its adoption by the Customs authorities, it should be thoroughly discussed by all parties affected, and with this object we shall be pleased to receive suggestions from firms interested in the export of spirituous medicinal preparations or of perfumery. The matter having now been taken up by the London Chamber of Commerce, and embodied in definite proposals, should not be allowed to again drop. Questions affecting the commercial condition of the country are at present sure to create an interest in the public mind which they did not awaken before, and the Government, we may feel assured, will do their utmost to meet the just requirements of an important industry.

NEW VARIETIES OF VANILLA.

A SMALL trial shipment of vanilla pods, of a kind not hitherto seen on our market, arrived in London a few days ago, and was placed in the showroom of a firm of Mincing Lane drug-brokers for inspection. The pods are from four to eight inches in length and from one to two inches in width, deep brown in colour and of a rather disagreeable rancid odour, possibly caused by the oil in which they have been steeped. The vanilla does not belong to the *planifolia* species, which is the sort generally met with on this market, but may be the fruit of the *Vanilla palmarum* or *V. aromatica* varieties which are known to flourish in Brazil, from which country the shipment in question is said to have been imported. The pods are entirely devoid of "frost," and it is very unlikely that, in the condition in which they are offered at present, they will at all secure a favourable reception. But it is by no means impossible that the growers may improve their product by paying greater attention to its cultivation and preparation for the European market, and in that case the ungainly-looking sample now offered to our buyers may prove to be the predecessor of regular and marketable supplies. The pods somewhat resemble a specimen described some years ago by Mr. Charbonnier in the *Répertoire de Pharmacie* as the product of Guadeloupe, in which island it had been cultivated for several years, and whence consignments varying from 150 to 2,000 kilos. per annum have been shipped to French ports, where it sold at about one-half the price of Bourbon vanilla. Shipments of Brazilian vanilla have also been received in France from time to time, but the quality gave no satisfaction, and the supplies have always been of a

spasmodic character. Most of the so-called vanillon sold on the French markets is also said to be a Brazilian product. Its use is almost confined to perfumery purposes.

It would certainly seem that there is room for an extension of the sources of supply of vanilla, provided the cultivation of the plant be conducted with care, and the fruit prepared in a manner suitable to the taste of the European market. The planters of Réunion and Mauritius have contrived to do this, with the result that a thriving vanilla industry has been created in these islands, the former of which now produces perhaps 100,000 lbs. vanilla per annum, and the latter more than half that quantity. Mexican vanilla, the best variety known, is mostly consumed in the United States, which country imports nearly 100,000 lbs. of vanilla yearly. In Java, Ceylon, and several of the Polynesian islands, vanilla is to some extent successfully cultivated; but it will probably be a long time before the yield of these islands becomes an appreciable factor in the trade. The eastern coast of Madagascar appears to possess a soil eminently suitable for vanilla cultivation, but capital and skilled labour are required to develop the industry. As yet no particular effort has been made to create a trade in the product, but it is said that in some parts of the island the cultivation of the plant is increasing rapidly.

The extension of vanilla cultivation in various foreign countries should be beneficial to the London market. Hitherto trial shipments of new vanillas have generally been directed to Bordeaux, but the French Government, in the protective mood which at present distinguishes them, have just laid before the Chamber of Deputies a Bill imposing an additional duty of 416f. per 100 kilos. (about 1s. 6d. per lb.) on all foreign vanillas, irrespective of the duty of 416f. per 100 kilos. which is already levied upon all vanillas alike. Of course the doubling of the import duty on the foreign article is intended to secure to the vanilla-growers in Réunion (or Bourbon), which is a French colony, the monopoly of the market in the mother country. The result of the new impost will probably be to direct to London such consignments of Mauritius and, perhaps, Mexican vanilla as have hitherto found their way to Bordeaux. And if the vanilla cultivation in Madagascar should increase the produce from that island, which has not as yet been incorporated in the territories of the French Republic, it will probably also be shipped to London, and to this port also shipments from Brazil and the Australasian islands will eventually find their way. So far as we are concerned there is, therefore, no cause for grumbling. It should be added that the French Government, to do the thing thoroughly, propose to place a duty of 104f. per kilo. (about 36s. per lb.) on vanillin or artificial vanilla made in France, and 208f. per kilo. on foreign vanillin. The present market value of vanillin, which is mostly imported from Germany, is about 900f. per kilo. (10s. per oz.).

Light, more Light! At the last meeting of the chemical section of the London Chamber of Commerce the question of the desirability of publishing the result of Government tenders for drugs and chemicals gave rise to a prolonged and animated discussion. A resolution was ultimately adopted that the authorities should be requested to cause publicity to be given to accepted tenders for drugs and chemicals, preferably by posting up such tenders, or by placing them on view for a certain period. The request expressed in this resolution is perfectly reasonable, and the publication of Government tenders is, of course, eminently desirable upon all grounds of public policy. But the system upon which certain Government contracts have hitherto been allotted has been so beneficial to a few favoured firms, that it is not surprising to hear that a strong minority of the

members present expressed themselves thoroughly opposed to the resolution. These advocates of secrecy appear to have no more solid argument to fall back upon than that it would be prejudicial to the drug trade to have Government tenders made public, because such contracts would be published in trade journals, and lead all readers of the latter to suppose that they could be supplied upon the same terms as Government! Whatever may be the case with many departments, there is at least one which has been in the habit of paying at a scale of prices which few retailers would care to be charged. This department, which annually uses a considerable quantity of drugs and chemicals, was until recently in the habit of purchasing these on the following system. Forms of contract were forwarded to perhaps three or four well-known drug firms, stating that the department proposed to buy certain quantities of specified goods at a fixed price, currently reported to have been sometimes six or even eight times in excess of the market value of the articles, and asking what discount the firm to whom application was made were prepared to allow off these rates. Quite recently the State department referred to has included two or three more firms among the favourite few whom it allows to compete for orders paid for with the taxpayers' money, and it is said that the first result of this miserable attempt to move with the spirit of the times has resulted in the ousting of the previous suppliers by the new competitors. In the interests of the drug and chemical trades at large, the public purse, and the contracting departments alike, it has become urgently necessary that the latter should cease to be pocket boroughs of a few drug houses. Why should not the heads of the Government departments adopt the sensible plan of advertising their requirements and accepting the most suitable, which generally would mean the lowest, tenders, afterwards publishing the full results of the competition, which should, perhaps, be confined to British firms. Such a course is pursued in most civilised countries, and there is surely no necessity for us to wait until the advent to power, if it ever should take place, of the new "National Party" before doing away with a system which opens the door to all manner of jobbery and abuse.

* *

Adulteration. The Earl of Wemyss has introduced a Bill into the House of Lords dealing with the sale of adulterated commodities. He proposes that the vendor of every commodity shall be deemed to warrant it to be unadulterated unless he proves that he informed the purchaser at the time of delivery that it was adulterated, or that it was expressly purchased as the manufacture, composition, or mixture of some other person, and that it was in the same condition as when received by the seller from him. If a person knowingly sells an adulterated commodity without giving this information, all that the Bill does is to enable the purchaser to recover from him in court the sum paid for it, and also to keep the adulterated commodity. The fact that it is adulterated is to be *prima-facie* evidence that the seller knew it. But the Bill is not to protect a seller from being proceeded against by indictment in respect of the sale of an adulterated commodity, nor is it to relieve him from any penal consequences, nor to prevent a purchaser who sustains any injury to his health through the use of the article from recovering damages.

* *

Unqualified Medical Practitioners. Moved no doubt by scandals which have lately come to light, the General Medical Council has given notice that they are prepared to enforce a resolution passed by them on April 21, 1883, which is to the effect "That the Council record on its minutes, for the information of those whom it may concern, that charges of gross misconduct in the employment of unqualified assistants, and charges of dishonest collusion with unqualified practitioners in respect of the signing of medical certificates required for the purposes of any law or lawful contract, are, if brought before the Council, regarded by the Council as charges of infamous conduct under the Medical Act." Infamous conduct renders medical men liable to have their names removed from the register. If the Council act energetically and firmly much benefit will be done to medicine as well as to the public.

FRENCH PHARMACEUTICAL NEWS.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

LIBRARIES CLOSING.—The library of the College of Pharmacy will be closed from August 15 to October 15, and that of the Faculty of Medicine from August 1 till the beginning of next session.

PROTECTING VANILLA AND SPICE GROWING.—A Bill, now printed and ready for discussion, has been presented to the Chamber of Deputies, doubling the duty on foreign coffee, cocoa, pepper, cinnamon, and spices in general.

M. DREVAULT, the head-gardener of the College Botanical Gardens, received this week two decorations, namely, the purple ribbon of the Instruction Publique, and the green one of the Mérite Agricole. He is certainly a very able botanist and a practical horticulturist.

KOLA PLANTS FOR COCHIN CHINA.—The Marseilles Botanical Gardens have shipped, by the steamship *Anadyr*, to Saigon, Cochin China, four hot-houses containing 280 kola plants well started, to be transplanted in the colony. Next month the same quantity is to be shipped by the steamer following. They intend to try the growing of the kola nut in Cochin China.

THE HYGIENIC EXPOSITION was the other day enriched with a new specimen—namely, a three-months-old baby, abandoned during a public lecture on vaccination. Instead of sending the waif to the Assistance Publique, Dr. Félix Brémont took charge of it in the name of the Society of the Hygiene of Infancy, and the exhibitors joined in the good deed by subscribing for a handsome suit of baby's clothes. It is to be hoped the child will not be used for experimenting with the baby-medicines.

IN MEMORY OF PROF. BAUDRIMONT.—Two portraits of the late Prof. Ernest Baudrimont have been presented, with due ceremony, to the Paris College of Pharmacy. One has been placed in the *Salle des Actes*, among many likenesses of pharmaceutical celebrities, and the other in the professors' parlour. Both portraits are the work of M. Gabriel Gay, an artist of some note, and were paid for from funds contributed by the friends and admirers of the late Professor. The amount collected by the committee, composed of MM. Joulie, Chevrier, Gendron, Crinon, and Ferrand, was exactly 2,000f., the price agreed upon with the painter. M. Ferrand made the presentation speech on behalf of the committee.

PHARMACEUTICAL LEGISLATION.—The French Parliament adjourned on July 23, without taking any action on the Bill respecting civil pharmacy. As to the Army Bill, which affects military pharmacy, the measure has passed the House, and is now before the Senate, but considerably altered from the original draft. Military pharmacists are indirectly recognised in the amended Bill, and are understood to be looked upon by the present Ministry more favourably than they were by the Boulanger Administration. But as the fate of the whole Army Bill before the Senate is considered very doubtful, it is perhaps useless to indulge in lengthy explanations.

DEATH OF DR. ROBINET.—Gustave Robinet, who kept a pharmacy at No. 55 Rue du Cherche-Midi, Paris, died on July 25, from rheumatism of the heart, at the age of thirty-eight. Deceased was the son of the well-known Dr. Robinet, and graduated at the Paris College as a pharmacist of the first class in 1874, with a thesis on Niaoouli, a tree of New Caledonia. He also graduated as a doctor of medicine in 1880, but did not practise, as the French law strictly forbids any person practising in both professions at the same time. Dr. Robinet also obtained the degree of licentiate in physical sciences, and was at the time of his death a member of the Council of Hygiene of the Department of the Seine and the Vice-President of the Paris Municipal Council. He was a man of great promise, much appreciated for his affability, and an honour to the pharmaceutical profession.

Practical Notes and Formulae.

RESINA PODOPHYLLI.

THE variable character of commercial podophyllin was recently the subject of a discussion in our Correspondence columns. This matter is one which has received the attention of many chemists at various times during the past fifteen years, and there yet appear to be several points which require some investigation. Amongst these are the yield of the resin by the different processes, and the characters of the products. Mr. J. F. Burnett (Oxford) has done some work in this direction, the results of which are embodied in this note. Working with a sample of good rhizome, upon which there was a considerable amount of rootlets, he made a tincture which was divided into four portions, and treated as follows, the tincture being in each case concentrated by evaporation:—

A. Poured into water at the ordinary temperature, well stirred, allowed to stand for twenty-four hours, and the precipitate then collected and dried at 100° C. Yielded 2 per cent.

B. Treated in exactly the same way but with water at 50° C., and dried at 50° C., the same amount only was obtained.

It has been stated that the amount of resin obtained varies with the temperature of the water used. The foregoing results do not corroborate this statement. 100° C. is too high a temperature to dry at, for the resin is thereby darkened and semi-fused. The dark colour of some commercial samples may be due to overheating. When water alone is used to precipitate the resin deposition is extremely slow, and filtration, if resorted to, difficult. The last observation induced the author to try the old official method, and, in the case of

C, the resin was precipitated in three times its volume of water acidulated with hydrochloric acid ($\frac{1}{24}$ th). The yield was 3 per cent.

D. Same experiment as C, but the temperature of the acidulated water was 50° C. instead of normal. Yield the same.

[Precipitation was much easier with acidulated water, and filtration was unimpeded. The resin obtained after careful drying was dark yellow; with water alone the colour is much lighter.]

In the course of the experiments it was also ascertained that the total amount of soluble matter extracted by rectified spirit from the rhizome was 8 per cent. It is evident, therefore, that the effect of the acid added to the precipitation water is to throw a larger portion of this matter out of solution. The difference between what we may call the "neutral" and "acid" prepared podophyllins was as follows:—

The former dissolved entirely in rectified spirit and solution of ammonia. It yielded 50 per cent. to ether.

The latter was soluble in ammonia, but imperfectly so in rectified spirit. It yielded 50 per cent. to ether; but this requires corroboration, as it would follow, from the results with the ether test, that both resins were equally active therapeutically, for the portion soluble in ether is understood to be the more active part of the resin.

Reviewing the results as a whole, the author concludes that the B.P. (1885) method is an improvement on the 1867 one, and he suggests that the precipitate mixture should be allowed to stand for forty-eight hours before the resin is collected and dried.

CHLOROSIS PILLS.

DR. CAMPARDON recommends the following:—

	Grammes
Reduced iron	10
Ext. of gentian	5
Amorphous quassin	1.5 to 2
Rhubarb	5

Make a mass and divide into 80 pills, of which 2 to 4 are to be taken for a dose.

Nouv. Rem.

GOLD-PLATING MIXTURE.

DISSOLVE $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. chloride of gold in a solution of 2 oz. cyanide of potassium in a pint of clean rain-water. Add 1 lb. prepared Spanish whiting, expose to the air until dry. In applying, make into a paste with water, and rub it on the surface of the article with a piece of chamois skin or cotton flannel.—*Scientific American.*

TESTS WITH VARIOUS INSECTICIDES.

PROFESSOR RILEY, Entomologist of the United States Department of Agriculture, has been experimenting upon the relative values of insecticides. His results show that ice water is not reliable as a remedy against the cabbage worm, while salt and water and saltpetre and water also failed. One part carbolic acid to 100 parts of water injured the leaves and did not kill the worms under the leaves. Pyrethrum, 1 part, and flour, 3 parts, dusted on the plants killed three-fourths of worms. Kerosene emulsion destroyed 80 per cent. of all worms exposed to it, but buckwheat flour, ammonia, powdered alum, copperas water, carbolic lime, black pepper, tar water, and tomato water were failures. Copperas, 4 oz. to a quart of water, killed all the worms. Tar water and Wolf's soap drove the margined blister beetles from beets, but they returned. One part carbolic acid and 64 parts water drove ants away permanently. Kerosene emulsion destroyed yellow-necked caterpillars. Two applications of a saturated solution of salt killed lice on lettuce. The woolly aphis on apple trees was destroyed by kerosene emulsion, which, as the results show, is about the best insecticide, but has the drawback of imparting its odour to cabbage leaves.

PARASITICIDE FOR ANIMALS.

DR. HAGER was recently called upon to investigate a case in which several cattle died after the application to their bodies of a mixture composed of arsenic, 5 parts; white hellebore, 12 parts; wormwood, 8 parts; water, 100 parts; and soft soap, 175 parts. A certain quantity of this was mixed with hot water and applied to the skin. In a short time sores broke out and the animals died. Dr. Hager (*Phar. Zeit.*) gives several suggested explanations, the most reasonable of which is that the soap contained a large excess of caustic alkali, which, combining with the natural fat of the skin, would allow the poisonous ingredients of the paste to be absorbed. He therefore calls attention again to the danger of the use of arsenic unless under proper precautions. There are various innocuous materials which may be used to destroy parasites, and he proposes the following compound for this purpose:—

Acid. carbolic, pur.	300 grains
" salicylic	150 "
Sodæ carbonat. (crystals) .. .	225 "
Decoct. quassiae (1 in 15) .. .	94 oz.

Dissolve and add a tincture made from the following:—

Caryophylli	450 grains
Piper. nigri	503 "
Ol. animalis æther., ol. anisi, ol. citro-	
nellæ, ol. caryophylli, ol. bergamotte,	
of each	m40
Spirit.	40 oz.
Aquæ	24 "

This should be rubbed on the skin with a sponge, taking care to keep it from the eyes, mouth, and other mucous surfaces which it would irritate. For small or young animals the preparation should be diluted with its own volume of water.

[This preparation will be equally suitable for children's heads. It seems a little too delicate for cattle and sheep.—ED.]

THE CULTIVATION OF DRUGS IN ASSAM.

MR. OSWIN WEYNTON, a gentleman who has been a resident in Assam for about twenty years, recently delivered a lecture on the commercial products of that province to the members of the East India Association, and pointed out that the country is capable of almost unlimited development. Mr. Weynton considers that an intelligent, energetic young man of sound physique, and possessed of a minimum capital of 4,000*l.* (a condition which, we fear, will considerably reduce the number of eligible emigrants), could not look for a more certain competence than by starting as a planter in Assam. That country, which covers an extensive area in the north-eastern corner of British India, and is at present mainly known in Europe as a tea-producing district, might, if cultivated on scientific and modern principles, become a source of supply of a large number of articles which are at present derived from other parts of the British dominions or from foreign countries.

The obstacles to the development of Assam are in the first place, want of capital; secondly, the absence of railway communication with the outer world; and thirdly, the scarcity of labour, and consequent high rates of wages. The latter difficulty might be obviated by the immigration of labourers from Bengal or Burmah, or of Chinese; and the subject of railway construction throughout Assam is receiving the "serious attention of Government," whatever that may be worth. Among the products of the country in which Mr. Weynton thinks that profitable business might be created are many of pharmaceutical interest, besides tea, indiarubber (for which the soil seems especially suitable in many parts), silk, and tobacco.

The cultivation of arrowroot, tapioca, sago, and sugar, is not considered likely to become profitable at present, but indigo planting would doubtless prove a satisfactory source of revenue. The drainable swamps possess a soil admirably adapted for the growth of the plant, while the heavy dew falling up to the end of February would bring it to maturity by the middle of May; and the manufacture, by the aid of artificial irrigation, might be finished before the regular rains set in in mid-June.

Lac products might yield another source of revenue, though the depreciation of shellac renders it doubtful, we think, whether it would pay Englishmen to invest money in this industry at the present time.

The lac insect (*Coccus lacca*) abounds in the jungle, being of the best quality in the neighbourhood of the Khassia Hills. It is also found on the north side of the Assam Valley proper, encrusting the branches of a variety of shrubs about four feet from the ground, and in the densest underwood, so that, for successful propagation, dampness and shade are requisite. The insects with which to stock a plantation should be collected in November in their lac-cells, about 40 lbs. of the latter per acre being required. This lac is affixed to the trees of the plantation, and the insects left to propagate. The increase of cell-formation soon becomes apparent. At first a streak of crimson draws out from the pieces of lac, which, if inspected with a magnifying-glass, will be found to be a column of insects; then the colour deepens and the size increases, each insect forms a separate cell and begins to exude the tough substance, until by the end of the rains it becomes necessary, in many cases, to support the branches weighed down by the incrustation. A year after the introduction of the insect each tree yields an average of 8 lbs. of lac, or 6 lbs. of clean seed lac, the present price of which, in the London market, at 40*s.* per cwt., gives a gross return of 144*l.* per acre. The lac is pounded small, washed in water with a little unslaked lime, dried under shade, packed in chests of 56 or 112 lbs., and sent direct to London; and as there is a growing preference among dealers and manufacturers for seed lac in lieu of shellac, the expense of converting the former into the latter need not be attempted.

Ginger and turmeric, if well cultivated and prepared for the market with care, can be grown in Assam at a considerable profit. At present they are reared in a desultory manner in almost every village, but so little care is bestowed upon the culture and drying that only a very low price is obtained in the local bazaars. Generally the roots receive a superficial washing, are then smeared with fresh cowdung, and hung in

baskets or spread on trays among the rafters of the native huts, the ascending smoke doing the rest. The dried root consequently is dirty, shrivelled, and, despite the constant smoke, invariably riddled with the bamboo-borer insect. It was proved, however, by experiments on one of the Sylhet plantations about twenty years ago, that if properly cured Assam ginger will command a price nearly equalling that paid for the best Jamaica ginger, and Mr. Weynton says it might be worth, perhaps, to extract the essential oil on the spot and only ship the latter.

Anise and star anise are found in abundance in Assam, the one under the name of Mahori, the latter under that of Badian. Among the low hills round Gowhatti, and in the forests of the Khassia and Naga Hills, sufficient seedlings of anise for stocking can be easily procured, but considerable care is required in transporting them, and this should be done during the cold weather, the plants lifted with as much earth round the roots as can conveniently be carried. As the object with anise is to obtain as luxuriant a foliage as possible, high cultivation and copious manuring should be resorted to; the plant may be put in 4 feet by 4 feet—the same distance as tea, but if the district in which the plantation is situated is more than ordinarily subject to visitations of blight and red spider, it will be prudent to plant somewhat wider—say 5 feet by 5 feet; for the quality of the oil will be adversely affected by the presence of diseased leaves. Anise leaves should be gathered like tea, and plucking take place in dry weather only. The leaves may be subjected to a light rolling, so as to break the cells, and the oil pressed out or extracted by distillation. The oil may be shipped in small casks or bottles, the latter being always easily procurable in the growing districts.

For the cultivation of star anise or badian a manure containing a high percentage of phosphates, such as limestone, bones, or animal offal, answers best. The seed, or rather fruit, is of course the principal product, but the bark of the badian is almost equally rich in aromatic constituents. Both seed and bark may be lightly crushed and infused in alcohol or distilled in the usual manner. The flavour of anise preparations is so pungent that the house set apart for their manipulation should be kept distinct from all buildings devoted to other manufactures, and the people employed in the anise business should be retained for that special purpose. Natives are proverbially careless, so that strict vigilance to prevent interchange of the tea and aniseed baskets must be specially guarded against. Scented tea is all very well in its way, but impregnated with the powerful odour of anise it would find scant favour either with dealers or the general consumer.

Andropogon Schananthus, or Ghundho bina, as the Bengalis term it, is a small stunted-looking shrub that is found under the hills on the south side of the two valleys now forming Assam. It is well known in Ceylon and Southern India, and from its fresh-gathered leaves is distilled the lemon-grass oil of commerce; in its native state Ghundho is rather barren, but well manured and cultivated it responds to generous treatment, and repays those who raise it. The pruning is much the same as that demanded for other leaf-producing crops; even the coarse, older leaves are impregnated with the essence, but care must be exercised to avoid over-plucking. The plant should be allowed to attain six feet in height before plucking, and as soon as signs of exhaustion, such as drooping of the lower leaves, become apparent, an interval of rest should be accorded. It should not be touched from October to April, and only on bright, warm days. If fire is used the heat must be low, but a brighter and clearer oil is obtained if a glass retort is employed, so arranged as to revolve slowly in the full beams of the sun, otherwise the product is streaked with films of dark muddy lines that will detract considerably from its market value. The plant may be propagated from layers, cuttings, or separation of the roots, but is sufficiently abundant to provide independent saplings for stock without recourse being had to the above somewhat tedious methods of multiplication. Either bottles or half-maund tins may be used for the first exportations. The refuse, after all oil has been extracted, is liable to ferment and become offensive, and should therefore be burnt without delay.

Cajuput (*Melaleuca cajuputi* Roeb.), a small tree somewhat resembling the weeping willow, is found mostly at the entrance of ravines, but it might be procured from the

Tipperah Hills, or from any other locality in which ruined temples are found, for in such places it was formerly carefully propagated by the priests, who had a knowledge of its medicinal virtues, though they seldom extracted the oil, but applied the hot, bruised leaves for sprains, bruises, and rheumatism. The tree reaches maturity in its fourth year, but the young shoots may be constantly cropped, and in this manner returns may be had eighteen months after planting. The leaves should be collected in fine hot weather, from April to September, lightly rolled, chopped, macerated in water for twelve hours, strained, and placed in a glass or enamelled still. The product is a light green or bluish tinged, limpid oil, which, as it is apt to discolour if exposed to light, should be packed as soon as possible. There is a large local demand for cajuput oil, not only in Assam, but also in the neighbouring state of Munnipoor and in Burmah, and probably the whole production could be sold to supply local wants. The cost of cultivating the plants is very small, the preparation inexpensive, and the returns handsome. The plant may be grown on almost any soil above swamp mark, scattered about in unused plots, and should be placed in groups large enough to afford leaves for one day's systematic plucking.

Another plant which might be profitably cultivated is the *Gynocardia odorata*, or Ta-fung-yu of China, which yields the so-called Chaulmoogra oil of commerce. The oil was previously expressed by the inmates of the gaols in the Sylhet district, but the trees are found wherever there is an intact primeval forest. Chaulmoogra oil, under the name of Ta-fung-yu, is a very large article of trade with China, where for ages it has been regarded as a specific in syphilitic diseases, and all over the East, where cutaneous maladies are so prevalent, unbounded faith in its virtues exists, and so esteemed is it in Persia and the countries adjacent, that at Shiraz and Bushire one rupee per oz. is readily paid for it. Ringworm, from which newcomers from Europe to Assam almost universally suffer, rapidly yields to the mixture of chaulmoogra and cinnabar. The *Gynocardia odorata* blossoms in April and May, and the fruit, which takes the form of an oblong nut—not much dissimilar in shape to a Brazil nut—ripens towards the end of the rains, is smooth and of a greyish colour, yielding, on cold pressure, 10 per cent. of rather thick resinous oil. Although it bears in the fifth or sixth year, the tree attains the size of a full-grown mango, so that wide planting is necessary, but beneath its shade other plants may be raised. The residual cake is unfit for cattle feeding, because of its nauseating qualities; although pigs readily consume it without any apparent deleterious effect.

The *Dipterocarpus* trees, which yield the oily gurjun resin, have now become very scarce in the accessible parts of Assam, but are still extant in the outlying jungles, which will have to be explored by intending settlers. It will be well to resort to the raising of the trees from seed, although they are slow of growth, and those which are fit for tapping are, presumably, some forty to fifty years old. Of late years the gatherers have not only tapped the trees to death, but in many cases actually felled them, but even now gurjun is still found in the deep valleys of the Looshai Hills, and reported by the inhabitants to abound far in the interior, the crude resin finding its way to the markets on the Chittagong side of those hills. A considerable number of untouched trees may also be noticed in the valley of the Kopoli and also in the forest about the Brahmakhond. The seeds ripen in October, and should be sown as fresh as they can be procured, for they rapidly lose their germinating power. From mature trees the resin may be abstracted any time from November to May in the following manner:—One or more oblong perpendicular holes are made at a convenient distance from the ground—2 feet long by 6 inches broad—cutting well into the body of the tree through the bark; at the lower end a cup-like cavity must be scooped out of sufficient capacity to hold a fluid quart; fire is then introduced and kept up with charcoal for from two to three hours, until the cavity is thoroughly well charred; on cooling the gurjun commences to trickle out, needing baling night and morning. The yield per annum from a fully matured tree—maturity being approximately indicated by a height of 70 feet, and girth 4 feet from the base, of 18 feet—was 346 lbs. Gurjun oil is the best varnish for all woods known throughout the East, and mixed with ground sulphate of copper and boiled to the consistency of a syrup, is an excellent preservative against dampness and insects. It is also used as a cosmetic, and mixed with neem-tree leaves as a poultice.

Castor-oil may be easily obtained as a by-product in silk culture, being yielded by the seeds of the plants on which the silkworms feed. So-called "cold drawn" castor-oil which fetches the highest price, is now largely used in soap-making and even in confectionery, and these employments, added to its use in medicine, will in all probability keep up the demand. The residual cake, dried in the sun, finds a market in Calcutta.

Croton Tiglium, the "Jummul ghùti" of the natives, is very plentiful in Assam, abounding in the drier districts to such an extent as to require frequent weeding out. Linseed and mustard also abound, but their cultivation, except in a few instances, should be left to natives. The same may be said as regards the cultivation of cotton, which, under existing circumstances, offers but little inducement to Europeans, but as immigration, rendered feasible by rail communication, sets eastward, matters may, and no doubt will, alter. Careful calculation based on experiments conducted over three years in the Jaintia Hills show that the fibre may be expected to return a profit of 1*d.* per lb. on that purchased from the hillmen, but an additional profit might be looked for from the oil and cake. If the seed can be obtained fresh, about 8 per cent. of oil may be pressed from it, and the returns will be found highly profitable, especially as the demand for cotton-seed oil is rapidly growing. The residual cake also finds a good demand in the country and for export.

As the development of Assam proceeds many drugs will no doubt be discovered in the country which may form profitable articles of export to Europe. It is well known now, for instance, that *Cinchona crissa* grows wild on the summit of the forest-clad cliffs overlooking the plains of Sylhet and Cachar at an elevation of some 1,500 feet, while ipecacuanha is found in abundance in the Larnai Valley, within a dozen miles of Shillong, though neither of the latter plants are likely to be successfully cultivated below the elevations indicated as their true *habitat*.

The terrestrial orchid that yields the aromatic pods of vanilla, though better grown at 1,000 feet or 2,000 feet above sea-level, may, with care and attention to keeping the young roots clear of ants and other insects, be successfully raised in the Assam plains and trained on the stems of the areca. *Bael* fruit may be introduced from native gardens, but as the best is grown about Dacca, seed should be imported thence. *Bael* will yield in the seventh year, and the pulp, contained in a hard calabash, which, beaten up with sugar and strained through coarse muslin, has a regulating effect upon the bowels is specially valuable in choleraic complaints. Anglo-Indian chemists manufacture a dried preparation of this fruit called dietetic bael; but much of the virtue of the pulp is lost during the process, and for export the form of preserve should invariably be adhered to.

Nux vomica, under the name of Koochela, is found growing wild in many parts of Assam, especially in Cachar, and as the natives all know the tree, the fruit may be obtained in any quantity without trouble. The seeds need simply be dried in the sun and packed in tea-chests for export.

Cassia lignea is also indigenous on the Assam hills, and the true cinnamon was introduced successfully, though only for experimental purposes, about 1867. The products of the neem tree, which are in high repute among native medical practitioners, may also possibly in future find a sale in Europe. One of the most promising branches to which a European settler in Assam could devote his attention is apiculture, the remunerative character of which has been fully demonstrated in all semi-tropical countries where it has been carried out intelligently. Systematic apiculture is at present confined to one Assamese village only, the insects being so numerous throughout the country that native collectors have hitherto been content to simply search the jungles for combs. If properly constructed hives were established in the shade of the *Ficus elastica*, the cultivation of that tree could be carried on side by side with apiculture. Orange groves are also excellent plantations in which to keep bees. The hives must be double the size employed in England, as swarms measuring five feet in length are by no means uncommon. At the end of the year little difficulty will be experienced in any part of the province in finding a swarm, but the removal to the hive must be undertaken by Europeans conversant with the process, as both nerve and patience are needed.

TRADE-MARKS APPLIED FOR.

THE *Trade Marks Journal* publishes the following notice:—"Any person who has good grounds for objection to the registration of any of the following marks may, within two months of the date of this journal, give notice in duplicate at the Patent Office, in the form 'J,' in the second schedule to the Trade Marks Rules, 1883, of opposition to such registration." The address of the Patent Office is Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.

From the "*Trade Marks Journal*," July 27, 1887.

"ROYAL PALACE BLUE"; for blue for laundry purposes.. By J. Johnson & Co., 79 St. Anne's Street, Liverpool 53,261.

"METROPOLITAN POLISH," and other wording, on label; for a white composition for boots. By W. Clark, 528 Oxford Street, W. 61,347.

"JOSEPH PICKERING'S FURNITURE-POLISH," and other wording, on label; for furniture-polish, &c. By J. Pickering & Sons, Sheffield. 61,625.

"PRIMROSE BLOOM," and other wording, on label; for a toilet-powder (61,961). "Primrose Hair Tonic," and other wording, on label; for the same (61,964). By F. J. Loveday, chemist, Ryde.

"MASON'S EXTRACT OF HERBS"; for the same. By Thomas Mason, manufacturing chemist (trading as Newball & Mason), Nottingham. 62,407.

"POTIO," and signature of depositor; for aerated waters. By Elias Lyon, Eccleston Hill, near Prescott. 62,660.

"EAU D'AMBERT," and other wording, on label; for a patent medicine. By A. E. Dreyfus & Co., merchants, 32 Fenchurch Street, E.C. 62,678.

Figure of a Red Cross sister; for chemical substances (Class 2). By George Mason & Co. (Limited), 417 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 63,156.

"H. A." as monogram; for plate-powder, furniture-cream, &c. By H. Aizlewood, manufacturer, Rotherham. 63,197.

"IVORY AND EBONY," below figure of a negro holding two elephant's tusks; for paints and varnishes. By Dodd & Oulton, Stanley Street, Liverpool. 63,449.

"JOHN R. HALL'S TRIPLE EXTRACT OF WOOD-VIOLETS," and other wording; for a perfume. By E. R. Biggleston, chemist, Canterbury. 63,896.

"PHILOPEDE," and signature of the depositor; for a preparation for corns. By T. Bullen, chemist, West Brighton. 64,256.

"REAL VIOLETS," and figure of a bunch of violets; for pastilles for the breath. By Warrick Bros., Old Swan Lane, E.C. 64,262.

"HUNYADI JÁNOS" (65,157); "Hunyadi János," other English, French, and German wording, and figure of a knight's head, on a three-panelled label (65,156); the central part of the same label (65,158); a similar label to 65,156, but printed in English only, and with the words "Sole Importers: The Apollinaris Company, Limited, London," across the whole label (65,159) [Note.—This mark is in two varieties, the difference being only in price, which appears on the labels as 2s. and 1s. 6d. respectively]; the central part of the latter label (65,160); for natural mineral water. "Hunyadi János"; for chemical substances (65,161). By A. Saxlehner, Budapest, Hungary.

THE Royal College of Physicians has awarded the Baly medal to Dr. David Ferrier, F.R.S.

MR. HUNTER, chemist and druggist, Wellington, rescued two children from drowning in the Wear this week.

BANKRUPTCY REPORT.

Re S. W. BRADBURY, Birkenhead, Sheep Dip Manufacturer.

ON July 27 a public examination was held before Mr. Registrar Linklater. The bankrupt was described as a sheep dip manufacturer and traveller, of Birkenhead, Llandoverly, and Doncaster. The failure took place on June 24 last, and the accounts show a deficiency of 533*l.* 2s. 8*d.* In reply to the official solicitor, he stated that the cause of his insolvency was the costs incurred in connection with the action he had brought for libel in connection with the Sheep Dip Company, which he had promoted. In 1875 he was a sheep dip manufacturer at Birkenhead and Llandoverly, having previously been a chemist, and the next year he turned it into a company, receiving 10 shares for which he was liable, and 2,000 *3l.* shares paid up. The company had been wound up, and he was put down upon the list of contributors for 2,000 shares, but as the shares were fully paid-up he was held not to be responsible. He owed on the certificate of the chief clerk 3,450*l.* He brought the libel action against Mr. Henry Cooper, and in that action he answered all the questions which were put to him. Eventually he consented to a juror being withdrawn. He had filed his petition in London upon the advice of his solicitor, as it was thought that the petitioning creditor would keep the proceedings in Sheffield hanging over his head for some years. He was employed by Messrs. Cooper from 1872 to 1875, in the autumn of which he left them, and started the sheep dip business. After three months he formed his business into a limited liability company, receiving 1,500*l.* in cash and the balance in shares. In 1878 and 1879 the management of the company fell upon him, and down to the time of the appointment of the liquidator all cheques were paid into his private account. In 1878 the business of the company was removed from Liverpool to Birkenhead. After some other questions were put and answered the examination was ordered to be concluded.

NEW COMPANIES.

A LIMITED COMPANY has been organised to take over the business of Robert Dempster & Sons, gas and chemical plant manufacturers, of Elland, Yorkshire. The share capital is to be 100,000*l.*, divided into 3,000 *10l.* Seven per cent. cumulative preference and 7,000 ordinary shares, also of *10l.*

THE BRONCHALYNE TONICON COMPANY (LIMITED).—Registered by John Samuels, Outer Temple, Strand, W.C., with a capital of 50,000*l.* in *1*l.** shares. Object, to acquire the trade-mark "Bronchalyne Tonicon," and also the secret preparation or patent medicine bearing that name, and to carry on the manufacture and sale of the same. The first directors of the company are Alexander Fowler, Cuthbert Neilson, and Joseph Keatinge Pollock, each of whom must hold 200 shares in the company.

MARRIAGES.

[Notices of Marriages and Deaths are inserted free if sent with proper authentication.]

BARKER—BURDWOOD.—On July 23, at West Hackney Church, London, Samuel, son of Mr. N. Barker, to Miriam W., only daughter of the late Mr. James Burdwood, chemist, of Plymouth.

PATERSON—M'CRONE.—On August 1, at 4 Binnie Place, Glasgow, by the Rev. George Gladstone, Archibald B. Paterson to Jane M. M'Crone, daughter of William M'Crone.

DEATH.

FLEMING.—At Hillwood, Corstorphine, on July 28, Alexander Bonar Fleming, Esq., of Hillwood. The deceased gentleman was the founder of the firm of A. B. Fleming & Co. (Limited), printing-ink and chemical manufacturers, Caroline Park, Granton, N.B. He was well known in commercial circles, was a director of several public companies, and took an active part in the management of several benevolent institutions.

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

ABSELL, SENGRY & Co., Britannia Street, City Road, compounders.

CLARKE, B., & T. F., Arbutus Place, Upper Clapton, and Glenavon, Stoke Newington, surgeons.

FARR, J., BOLBEN, R. H., & GILLINGHAM, E. H. (under the style of The East Cliff Mineral Water Company), Bournemouth, mineral-water manufacturers, as far as regards J. Farr.

JOHNSTONE & THOMPSON, Brampton, Cumberland, surgeons.

LICHTENSTEIN & Co. (or Lichtenstein, Newlands & Co.), Silvertown, Essex, manufacturing chemists.

MARCH & CHARRINGTON, Newark-upon-Trent, chemists and druggists.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1883.

FIRST MEETING AND PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

OWEN, ROBERT EDWARD, Beaumaris, general medical practitioner. Aug. 8, Queen's Head Café, Bangor; Sept. 8, Court House, Bangor.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

ROBINS, JOSEPH, Deptford Broadway, Deptford, soap manufacturer. Second and final div. of 10%, Aug. 8, Messrs. Kennedy, Hobbs & Gibbs, 11 Old Jewry Chambers, E.C.

Trade Notes.

FOSTER & GREGORY (Limited), Lonesome Works, Streatham Common, have opened City offices at 3 Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C.

GORDON MURRAY & Co., the agents for Dr. Birley's preparations, have removed from Castle Street, Holborn, to 50 Theobald's Road, Holborn, W.C.

MESSRS. BAILEY & Co., of Fulham, have purchased the electrical branch of the manufacturing business of Bartrum, Pretymann & Mumford, 168 Upper Thames Street, E.C.

MR. W. SANGSTER, Aberdeen, has retired from the business of Davidson & Sim, which he so lately purchased, and the business is again being carried on by Messrs. W. Davidson and J. Sim.

MESSRS. S. W. ROZSE & Co. have established themselves as chemical merchants at St. Andrew's Chambers, Albert Square, Manchester, where they will carry on the business there hitherto in the hands of Messrs. J. Berger Spence & Co.

RUBINAT-CONDAL.—We made a brief reference to this new natural cathartic water last week. The water is one which in all likelihood will become generally known to the trade, and some particulars regarding it at this stage will be of interest. The Condal Spring, from which the water is obtained, is situated in Rubinat, in the province of Lérida, Spain. The spring is thus in the Pyrenees, and arises near Cervera, on the Barcelona road. As far back as the Middle Ages the water had a reputation, and the spring was resorted to by pilgrims who gave it the name, "The Miraculous Spring." For a considerable period it was lost sight of, but having been rediscovered, an examination was made of the water, the result of which showed that it was possessed of properties such as entitled it to a place amongst popular mineral waters. In some respects it is unique—for example, it is not a bitter water, because it contains a comparatively small proportion of magnesium sulphate (222 grains per gallon). The salt to which it owes its cathartic properties is sodium

sulphate, of which there is no less than 6,536 grains per gallon, and other salts of less importance are present in small quantity. The composition of the water renders it peculiarly suitable for the treatment of certain diseases, but on this point we call attention to the medical testimony. Dr. Merrell Mackenzie says it is the best water which exists, while Dr. Robson Roose considers that it is remarkably suitable for the gouty. Full particulars as to how the water is put up will be found in an announcement made by the agent in this issue.

COOPER'S SHEEP-DIP.

IN the Court of Appeal on Wednesday judgment was given in an appeal against the decision of the Divisional Court in the case of Cooper v. McDougall. The parties in the case are well-known manufacturers of sheep-dip—one, the plaintiff's, arsenical, the other, that of the defendant's, not arsenical; the action being by the former against the other for imputing that his, the plaintiff's, wash was poisonous and killed the sheep on which it was used. The plaintiff complained that the defendant had maliciously caused to be published in the *Field* and other papers a paragraph containing a false and malicious statement regarding the use of their dip. The plaintiff also complained that various persons (not mentioning the names of any) had ceased to deal with him or to purchase and use his sheep-wash. The plaintiff, in his declaration, further complained that the paragraph was maliciously and falsely published of him in his business. The Judge at Chambers had refused the application on the ground that it was not necessary, as proof of actual malice would not be necessary, and the Divisional Court upheld the refusal after hearing counsel.

Lord Esher said it was clearly an action for words tending to disparage the plaintiff in the way of his trade and business—that is, as a manufacturer of sheep-dip, which it is stated killed the sheep on which it was used. Could there be anything more disparaging of him in his trade or business? It is as though one should say of a grocer that all the sugar he sold was sand. It would not be necessary to say that he knew of it, for it would equally disparage him in his business; and so if it were said of a butcher that he always sold bad meat, or of a chemist that he sold a mixture which was poisonous. This, therefore, is an ordinary action for a libel reflecting upon the plaintiff in the way of trade and business; and actual malice is no more necessary than special damage.

Lord Justice Lindley and Lord Justice Lopes concurred. Appeal dismissed.

SOLE AGENCIES FOR CHEMISTS.

At the Ulverston County Court last week, before Judge Ingham, Mr. St. Jacobs, trading as "The Yorkshire Patent Medicine Company," sued Mr. Henry Pennington for 9*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* in payment of a quantity of patent medicines sent by the plaintiff, who resides at Sheffield. His traveller, Mr. Markham, stated that on March 25 he received the defendant's order for the goods, and they were sent the following day, but were refused to be taken in by the defendant, and were now lying at Sheffield Station. The defence was that the plaintiff's traveller had stated that defendant was to be sole agent for Ulverston and district for the sale of these medicines, but defendant found on inquiry the same day that a stock of the same medicines were kept by chemists in the town [Pennington is not a chemist and druggist], and he wrote by the same night's post cancelling the order, and also to the same effect after the goods were sent, which he refused to take in. The plaintiff stated that he did not receive defendant's letter of March 25, and the traveller said the agency was for the town of Ulverston only. Mr. Stephen Taylor, chemist and druggist, Barrow-in-Furness, deposed that plaintiff's traveller called upon him and said the company had no agent between Barrow and Carnforth, and witness accepted the agency for the district. The traveller said he never mentioned Carnforth, and the arrangement with Mr. Taylor was for Barrow only. His Honour nonsuited the plaintiff.

Trade Report.

Note to Retail Buyers:—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable, even for manufacturing purposes.

It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., August 4.

THE general holiday on August 1 has greatly interfered with business this week, and the circumstance that a large number of the frequenters of Mincing Lane are at present away from business has accentuated the dullness prevailing in the drug and chemical markets. No cinchona, drysaltery, or spice sales have been held this week. The principal topic of discussion among the trade has been the lawsuit brought by Mr. A. S. Pickering against Messrs. Spencer, Wilson & Co., in which, though the amount of money at issue was comparatively small, an important question of "custom of trade" was involved. The action was tried to-day in the Lord Mayor's Court, in the presence of a considerable number of members of the drug and chemical trades. The proceedings came to a thoroughly lame and impotent conclusion by the jury being unable to agree. A special report of the case is given elsewhere in our columns, and it is said that the parties are determined to "have it out" before another jury. The fire which destroyed the premises and stock of Messrs. C. H. Harker, Stag & Morgan last night also furnished a lively theme of conversation.

In the chemical market citric acid and borax must be pronounced slightly easier, while on the other hand bleaching-powder is steady, and the scarcity of available supplies of soda crystals still continues to be felt. Cream of tartar and sulphate of ammonia are again slightly dearer. Shellac offers for forward delivery at an unprecedentedly low rate, and the rumours of a large peppermint crop in America, although partly contradicted by our correspondent there, appear to find pretty general credence, as evidenced by the anxiety of holders to meet the market. Linseed oil is rather lower in price, but turpentine for forward delivery and rape-seed oil are both quoted higher.

CITRATE OF IRON AND QUININE.—We wish to call attention to a letter which appears in our correspondence columns from Messrs. Lambert & Strong, the selling brokers of the parcel of 3,000 oz. of this preparation to which reference was made in our Trade Report last week. To brand an article of such low quality as "Fletcher's make" was certainly calculated to impair the reputation which Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher & Stevenson have justly acquired as manufacturers of this product, and we are glad to note that an apology has been so promptly offered.

ACID (CITRIC) is very quiet, and quotations show a tendency to decline; there are sellers now at 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 8¾d. per lb.

ACID (OXALIC) is very quiet at 4d. The demand is said to be of the slightest at present. *Sal acetos* is also quiet at 6d. per lb.

ACID (TARTARIC) is in fair demand; *English* is quoted at 1s. 7½d. and *foreign* at 1s. 7d. per lb.

ALUM remains quiet at 5l. 10s. for loose lump, and 6l. for ground alum.

AMMONIA COMPOUNDS.—*Carbonate* is still in a languishing condition at 4d. per lb., less a discount. The demand for *Sal ammoniac* is rather less, but prices are maintained at 36s. for first, and 34s. for second quality. There has been a very

good business done in *Sulphate*, which closes at 12l. 15s. in London, and 12l. 12s. 6d. at Hull. Stocks are small, and it is considered that the Scotch oil-trade scare will operate against any decline in the article.

ARSENIC remains firm at 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per cwt. for best white powdered.

BLEACHING-POWDER is still in good demand at 8l. 15s. to 9l. per ton. It is pointed out that the exports during the first six months of the year show a decline of nearly 1,000 tons compared with same time last year, and nearly 2,000 tons with same period of 1885, when the price was about 6l. to 6l. 10s., as against 7l. 15s. now ruling. It must not be forgotten that this article has to bear the loss on alkali which is inseparable from it in the manufacture of bleaching-powder as at present carried on. The competition in alkali is also more severe now than in 1885, when the prices were about 10 to 20 per cent. higher, and when the total exports of alkali by the Leblanc and ammonia processes were 20,000 tons more than during the first six months of the present year. Seeing the threatened further competition in alkali, still lower figures may be expected, but it will have the tendency to increase the price of bleaching-powder.

BORAX is rather quiet again, though the prices of 28l. to 30l. per ton are still nominally maintained.

BROMIDE OF POTASSIUM firm at 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—*Crude* is rather firmer in Japan and China, where large purchases are said to have been made for American account; but the London market shows no improvement, 65s. per cwt. being nominally asked for Japan, and 62s. to 63s. per cwt. for China. The demand for *refined* camphor is well kept up here and manufacturers quote 11½d. for bells, and from 11½d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. for squares.

CINCHONA.—No public sales have been held this week. It is said that the Dutch-Indian Government are again considering a proposal to sell their cinchona plantations in Java to private firms. The effect of such a sale would probably be to cause a greater proportion of the Java cinchona bark to find its way to London than has been the case hitherto.

CLOVES are slightly easier, about 100 bales *Zanzibar* having changed hands at 11d. per lb.

COCA LEAVES.—A private report from Peru, dated June 11, states that at the South American shipping ports coca leaves are scarce, owing to the failure of the crop in the interior. Exporters are scarcely able to fill the contracts they have made, and until December next, when the most important crop is due at the ports, the shipments of coca leaves are likely to be very small.

CODEIA is somewhat declining in price.

COPPER (SULPHATE) is rather neglected at 13l. 17s. 6d. per ton, the recent price.

CREAM OF TARTAR has made a further slight advance, and is now held at 129l. per ton for firsts.

CUTCH remains firm. None has been landed in London last month, and the stock is reduced to 814 tons, against 2,295 tons last year. For M.M. slabs 31s. has been paid, and for R.S. 30s. per cwt. At Liverpool the market is also hardening, and closes with sales at the following rates:—Flag B.B., 32s.; double Eagle, 35s. 6d.; Star B., 32s. to 32s. 6d.; Cock, 31s. to 33s.; and R.S. in slabs, 28s. 9d. to 29s. 6d. per cwt.

GAMBIER is firm, with sales of block on the spot at 23s., and free cubes at 36s. per cwt.

GLYCERINE remains firm at 75l. per ton for well-known brands, 1,260 s.g.

GUM ARABIC.—The market is steady, but there has not been much business passing since our last report. Really fine *Australian* is scarce, and would realise a good price. In *Barbary* gum no transactions are reported, while of *East Indian* gums, fine Aden is still scarce and wanted. Fine qualities of Amrad gum are likewise inquired for, but ordinary lots are difficult of sale. Of *Senegal* gum there is but little offering in the market, and quotations are almost nominal.

IODIDES are now quoted as follows:—*Iodine Resublimed* 14s.; *Potassium iodide*, 11s. 6d. per lb.

LEAD (ACETATE).—The late advance to 26*l.* 10*s.* per ton for best foreign sugar of lead is well maintained.

MERCURIALS are now quoted as follows:—Calomel, 2*s.* 9*d.* per lb.; corrosive sublimate, 2*s.* 1*d.* per lb.; mercurial ointment, 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb.; red precipitate, 2*s.* 11*d.* per lb.; white precipitate, 2*s.* 11*d.* per lb., and vermilion, 2*s.* 4*d.* per lb.

MORPHIA is still quoted at 7*s.* 6*d.* per oz. by the manufacturers, but second-hand holders sell below this price.

OIL (COCOANUT) is neglected, at 24*l.* for Ceylon oil on the spot, and 31*l.* to 33*l.* for Cochin, according to quality. Small transactions in Mauritius oil are reported at 26*l.*

OIL (COTTONSEED) is quiet, the refined oil not having recovered from the recent decline. Crude on the spot is held at 18*l.* 15*s.* and refined, according to brand, at 20*l.* 10*s.* to 21*l.* on the spot, and for November-April at 18*l.* 10*s.* Hull, spot, casks 19*l.* 15*s.* to 19*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, August-September 19*l.* 15*s.*, November-April 17*l.* 10*s.* Crude, spot 17*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 17*l.* 5*s.*

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Essential oil of Almonds is now quoted at 25*s.* per lb. In Star anise there is nothing doing at present, but prices are gradually easing, 7*s.* 4*d.* per lb. being the nearest value. Oil of Bergamot remains firm, our stock is still very small; but prices remain unaltered since last week. In Cassia oil business is at a standstill, 2*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* 9*d.* per lb. is quoted. Retail transactions in Citronella at the old prices of $\frac{7}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per oz. Oil of Cloves, English drawn, is held at 7*s.* per lb. The gathering of the French Lavender crop has not yet commenced, but will take place during the present month. Some inquiries have been going round for oil of Lemon, but they have not resulted in much business. Otto of rose of the best qualities is held at 22*s.* 6*d.* per oz. American Oil of peppermint, H. G. Hotchkiss's brand, is offering to arrive as low as 14*s.* per lb.; while on the spot small lots offer at 14*s.* 3*d.* per lb. Our American cablegram to-day depicts the state of the crops in Michigan in rather unfavourable terms. Essential oil of Pimento is quoted at 12*s.* per lb.

OIL (LINSEED).—Values have declined since last week, and the market closes quiet. The present quotations are for spot here, pipes 21*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, barrels 21*l.* 10*s.*; August 21*l.* 5*s.*, September-December 20*l.* 10*s.* Hull prices: Spot, casks 20*l.* 15*s.*, barrels 21*l.*; August 20*l.* 10*s.*, September-December 19*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

OIL (OLIVE) remains very steady, with buyers of Mogadore at 30*l.* 10*s.* to 31*l.* Sicilian oil is held at 32*l.* to 32*l.* 10*s.*, and Spanish at 35*l.* In Liverpool the tendency of the market appears to be less firm, and Smyrna oil, for which 32*l.* had been previously paid, is now offering there at 31*l.* Candia oil is said to have been sold at Liverpool at from 33*l.* to 33*l.* 10*s.* per tun.

OIL (PALM) is very quiet, at 20*l.* to 20*l.* 10*s.* for fine Lagos oil.

OIL (PETROLEUM) is still steady. American on the spot is held at 5½*d.* to 5¾*d.*, according to brand; September-December, at 5½*d.* to 5¾*d.*; and for January-April at 5½*d.* Russian on spot 5½*d.*, for September-December 5½*d.*

OIL (RAPESEED) has attracted more attention during the last few days and prices must be quoted slightly higher, English brown on the spot at 21*l.* 10*s.*, August at 21*l.* 10*s.*, September-December at 21*l.* 10*s.*, and January-April at 21*l.* 10*s.* English refined on the spot is worth 23*l.*

OIL (TURPENTINE).—On the spot the price is steady at 25*s.* 9*d.* for American spirit, while for forward delivery higher rates are asked—viz., 24*s.* 6*d.* to 24*s.* 9*d.* for September-December, and 25*s.* 6*d.* to 25*s.* 9*d.* for January-April shipment.

OPIUM.—At Smyrna the market is quiet, and prices, according to the latest mail reports, rule at 18*s.* for new opium at arrival weights, and 16*s.* 5*d.* to 17*s.* 4*d.* for old Karahissar. The arrivals of opium at Salonica and at Constantinople on July 19 were 180 and 82 cases respectively. At Smyrna on July 22, 116 cases. In the interior of Asia Minor a tropical heat reigns, which will tend to still further diminish the crop in those regions where the gathering has not yet been completed. Karahissar reports speak of the probability that

not more than one-half of the short crop last announced may actually be gathered. On our market opium is rather quiet just now, but in usually well-informed quarters it is thought that the next few weeks must inevitably bring a further rise.

POTASH COMPOUNDS.—Bichromate is more or less neglected at 4½*d.* per lb., while Chlorate remains neglected at 6*d.* to 6½*d.* per lb. Permanganate continues to be very firm at the recent advance. Prussiate unchanged at 7½*d.* per lb. for yellow.

QUICKSILVER.—The importer still demands 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per bottle, while secondhand holders offer at 6*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* With regard to the new quicksilver mines in Queensland, Australia, we hear that Mr. C. W. Tancred, a gentleman sent specially from England to inspect the properties of the Queensland Quicksilver Estates at Kilkiyan, reports that the cost of production cannot exceed 13*s.* per flask, and that the average yield from the Queensland ore will be much higher than that of the Californian. The company own 330 acres, all bearing more or less ore. Whether Mr. Tancred is a disinterested witness or not we cannot say.

QUILLAYA BARK.—Business in this article has not been very active lately, only a few transactions at 14*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 15*l.* per ton being reported from Liverpool.

QUININE.—Prices remain unchanged, say at 1*s.* 9*d.* per oz. for German brands, second hand; while some quinine of English make is also offering at 1*s.* 9*d.* per oz. There is very little animation in the market.

SALTPETRE.—Refined English saltpetre in barrels is now held at 20*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., and in kegs at 21*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., but there is very little demand.

SHELLAC.—No public sales took place this week, but those already announced for next Tuesday are exceptionally heavy, including, among other parcels, one of 1,000 cases Garnet. On the spot Second orange has been sold at from 42*s.* to 48*s.* per cwt., according to quality, and there have been also small transactions in Garnet lac at 38*s.* to 39*s.* per cwt., but there are no longer any buyers at those figures now. Standard Second orange (I.N.) is offering for shipment so far ahead as January to March next, and the very low price of 42*s.* per cwt. c.i.f., without finding purchasers.

SODA COMPOUNDS.—Ash: The demand has somewhat slackened, but the prices of 1½*d.* to 1¾*d.* per degree landed are still maintained. The price of Bicarbonate remains 6*l.* 15*s.*, with a fairly steady tendency. In Caustic soda the recent decline has caused buyers in the North to come forward, and a fair business at bottom prices has been transacted. In London, cream and white 60 per cent. remain dull at 7*l.* 10*s.* and 7*l.* 15*s.* respectively. The extreme scarcity of Crystals on the spot is still interfering with business in that article. The quotations remain 43*s.* 6*d.* in London, and 45*s.* 6*d.* to 46*s.* on the Tyne. Nitrate, 8*l.* 15*s.* to 9*l.* 5*s.* on the spot.

SULPHUR is in less demand so far as Flowers are concerned, but quotations are still 8*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.* 10*s.* per ton for this variety, while Roll sulphur is quiet at 7*l.* 10*s.* per cwt.

WAX (CARNAUBA).—A better feeling prevails at Liverpool, the principal market for this article. Sales have been made there at 39*s.* to 57*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., according to quality.

AMERICAN CABLEGRAM.

NEW YORK, August 4.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT.—In Michigan the drought is said to be causing considerable damage to the crop.

QUININE.—Prices continue to tend lower.

THE GERMAN MARKET.

HAMBURG, August 2.

THERE is very little of any interest to be mentioned from our market. At this time of the year things are very quiet as a rule, and business on the whole is of an unimportant character.

The prices in this column are given in marks (11¾*d.*) per

100 kilos., or per kilo. (1 kilo. = 2 lb. 3½ oz. 50½ kilos. = 1 cwt.). The prices in parentheses show the parity in London.

ALOES (CURAÇAO).—There is not very much business doing in this article, and prices remain unchanged—viz. very low. 300 cases came to hand recently.

BALSAMS.—*Copaiba* is somewhat neglected, and the anticipated advance has failed to set in, only small lots changing hands at 3.40m. to 3.50m. (1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.). *Peruvian* remains firm, but business has been moderate. Genuine quality is not obtainable under 10½m. to 10¾m. (4s. 8d. to 5s.). *Canada* is again reported firmer. *Tolu* remains quiet.

BARKS.—*Cinchona*: Porto Cabello in good demand, but only small quantities offering. Fair quality has been sold at 1.10m. (5d.). *Condurango* very scarce, and firmly held at 4.50m. (2s.).

BEANS.—Fresh arrivals of *St. Ignatius* have reduced the price, and 8.0m. (3½d.) is now quoted.

BORAX (REFINED) weaker; second-hand holders ask 55m. to 58m. (25s. to 26s.).

CAMPHOR (REFINED) without alteration.

CANTHARIDES are firm at the recent advances, and some holders are quoting higher figures.

GALLS.—*China* are in a fair demand, and have been sold at 115m. (52s.).

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Of *Star Anise* there are only small supplies; prices remain firm at 16m. (7s. 3d.). *Cassia* remains unchanged at 5.50m. (2s. 6d.).

OILS (FIXED).—*Cod-liver* very quiet, prime steam-refined Lofoden 85m. to 90m., Finnmarken 65m. to 70m. per barrel.

PEPPERMINT.—W. G. Hotchkiss brand is easier, owing to the anxiety of speculative holders to get rid of their stock; 14s. 4d. is now asked.

QUININE.—The market at the moment is in a peculiar position, the absence of speculation in that article having imparted to it a dull and uninteresting appearance. The quantity exported has been very moderate in spite of the low price. Good brands may be had at 58m. to 60m.

ROOTS.—*Jalap.* The lots which arrived recently have nearly all been taken from the market, and the feeling in the article is somewhat firmer. An early advance in prices is looked for in some quarters.

SEEDS.—*Sabadilla* easier, owing to the continued lack of demand. Buyers have shown no interest in this article since the decline, and the market remains very quiet at 53m. to 54m. (2½d.) for new, and 50m. to 52m. (2¼d.) for good old seed.

WAX (JAPAN) unchanged, and prime white squares are held at 98m. (44s.).

HOP TONIC.

The following has been published as a formula representing the popular preparation:—

	Oz.
Hops	4
Dandelion root	1½
Mandrake root	½
Buchu (long)	1

Put into a jar, add 1 gallon of boiling-water; cover, after twelve hours strain, and to 7 pints add 1 pint of alcohol.

HORSE BLISTER.

The following is a recipe from an eminent veterinary surgeon:—

	Oz.
Powdered cantharides	12
„ euphorbium	8
„ corrosive sublimate	1
Lard	48

Armenian bole q.s. to colour. Mix.

LONDON DRUG STATISTICS.

The following figures refer to the stocks of the principal drugs in the Port of London on July 31, 1887, and to the imports and deliveries from January 1 to July 31, as compared with the same period of the preceding year:—

Article	Stocks		Imported		Delivered	
	1887	1886	1887	1886	1887	1886
Aloes	4,670	3,645	2,171	1,858	2,717	2,692
„	8	12	41	—	45	12
„	247	325	20	379	19	214
Anise, Star ..	348	310	217	62	108	190
Arrowroot	14,893	15,491	11,401	12,574	8,380	8,446
„ bxs & tins	8,700	3,241	7,481	2,935	3,286	2,068
Balsams ..cks, &c.	678	385	493	354	506	537
Bark, Medicinal	9,686	8,744	18,918	18,792	17,105	14,093
„ ..cks & cs	41,353	59,601	25,611	24,705	30,721	22,786
Borax	2,553	993	2,156	989	807	684
Calumba	1,544	1,571	1,051	1,207	1,034	563
Camphor	4,274	5,432	3,625	3,466	5,527	5,158
Cardamoms ..	1,132	794	2,627	2,017	2,228	2,049
Cochineal	5,531	7,751	1,786	3,489	3,057	3,424
Cocc. Ind. bgs, &c.	562	559	294	330	232	105
Cream of Tartar	11	25	18	72	18	95
Cubebs	113	131	277	200	256	82
Dragon's Blood	123	125	89	84	98	89
Galls, China....	3,037	7,017	3,343	6,275	2,864	2,450
„ Trky & Prsn	6,005	6,883	4,704	9,744	2,630	5,516
Gum—						
Ammoniac pkgs	282	278	128	275	131	147
Animi & Copal						
„ pkgs	3,339	6,350	3,607	5,144	4,610	5,473
Arabic.....	11,050	17,667	8,869	24,186	13,029	15,800
Asafetida....	543	1,049	72	831	306	592
Benjamin	1,845	2,029	1,441	2,002	1,233	1,569
Damar	4,261	5,600	2,992	6,027	3,473	4,274
Galbanum....	—	9	1	—	1	6
Gamboge	176	124	178	266	205	281
Guaiacum....	104	22	48	43	20	59
Kiwo	67	119	12	9	37	45
Kowrie	711	1,313	1,110	955	1,237	1,676
Mastic	111	131	8	60	23	47
Myrrh	492	311	593	280	329	283
Olibanum	5,188	5,631	5,438	4,107	3,708	3,123
Sandarac	1,251	1,484	950	1,256	945	1,153
Tragacanth....	942	1,142	1,743	1,684	1,405	1,391
Indigo, East Indian						
„ ..cks	14,228	17,501	16,449	19,098	12,823	10,732
„ Spanish srns	2,514	2,988	3,739	4,086	3,154	2,697
Ipecacuanha						
„ ..cks & bgs	191	160	292	301	207	263
Jalap	174	202	59	166	39	161
Lac Dye	7,606	8,072	28	323	234	369
Myrabolanes ..	8,355	7,814	6,673	8,883	6,273	7,336
Nux Vomica pkgs	423	919	258	1,215	494	1,279
Oils—						
Anise	167	310	110	277	109	251
Cassia	188	160	210	277	119	283
Castor	534	521	395	594	457	609
„	4,850	6,115	3,726	6,609	5,314	7,335
Cocoa-nut.....	2,088	1,614	3,192	2,687	2,407	2,978
Olive	1,062	2,437	3,181	8,304	2,956	7,186
Palm	165	151	57	101	71	193
Opium	1,963	1,781	1,038	533	1,223	888
Rhubarb.....	1,536	1,726	814	762	1,130	1,087
Safflower....	266	398	945	1,010	1,415	1,199
Saltpetre	1,081	1,492	3,553	3,921	3,464	5,192
Soda Nitrate....	1,612	8,671	9,395	11,567	12,916	8,223
Sarsaparilla....	540	583	941	1,093	764	935
Senna	1,062	349	1,978	515	1,776	864
Shellac	74,860	64,751	41,239	35,459	26,342	28,628
Sticklac	4,266	4,963	557	568	40	1,041
Gambier	707	760	6,254	7,547	7,192	7,821
Cutch	814	2,235	1,326	2,003	1,850	1,828
Turmeric	1,750	1,560	1,029	1,877	1,192	1,175
Vermilion, cts, &c.	7	76	14	129	61	63
Wax, bees'						
„ ..cks & cs	903	1,354	546	979	692	745
„ ..cks & cs	1,492	1,384	1,637	1,675	1,515	1,756
„ ..cakes	3	105	11	117	—	16
Wax, Japan....	873	1,803	454	1,456	928	1,414

“A VICTIM” complains to the *Times* that his medical attendant has rendered his account simply as follows:—“To twelve months’ professional medical attendance and medicine, 47l. 9s.” The charge he considered so enormous for attendance on one person that he wrote politely to ask if the doctor would furnish a few particulars as to number of visits and his scale of charges. He replied that, according to the rules of the medical profession, made in 1864, he had furnished his account according to their formula. “A Victim’s” legal adviser has informed him that these rules do not hold good in law.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

Always send your proper name and address: we do not publish them unless you wish.

Write on one side of the paper only; write early; and devote a separate sheet of paper to each query if you ask more than one, or if you are writing about other matters at the same time.

If you send us newspapers please mark what you wish us to read

Ask us anything of pharmaceutical interest: we shall do our best to reply.

Before writing for formulae consult the last volume, if you have it.

Letters, queries, &c., not noticed in this issue will, if possible, be attended to next week.

Citrate of Iron and Quinine.

SIR,—We are instructed by our principals to express their regret that Messrs. Fletcher's name should have been mentioned in connection with the sale of some citrate of iron and quinine, as reported in your issue of last week.

They state that the parcel in question was specially manufactured to meet the requirements of a Colonial buyer, but owing to some misunderstanding it was subsequently re-shipped, and being unsuited to this market was put up at auction for sale on its merits.

Our principals therefore feel that they owe an apology to Messrs. Fletcher for having inadvertently made use of their name in such a manner as to convey the impression that the article was of their standard brand, and we trust you will give prominence to this explanation.

Yours obediently,

Dunster House, Mincing Lane. LAMBERT & STRONG

Pharmaceutical Desiderata.

SIR,—In the hope that these complaints which I am about to make, concerning many of the materials supplied to us as implements of service in the shop, will be seen and noticed by some enterprising manufacturer who takes and reads your valuable journal, I ask you to give this publicity.

Glass funnels are called "ribbed"; the ribs, if any, are as often as not on the outside, while inside are mere gentle undulations, to which the filtering-paper adheres as tight as possible, while in the neck of the funnel these conditions are reversed.

Glass measures are supposed to have lips to pour from, suited to the capacity. I have purchased some lately. The lips of the 2-oz. measures are actually larger than those of the 20-oz. So small are the latter, that it is almost impossible to pour a stream as large as a goose-quill without spilling; and that, too, by a hand so steady that it will take up a Winchester of turpentine, uncorked, and let fall a single drop from it.

Composition mortars are of so porous a nature that it is not possible to keep them free of stain outside or inside, clean them as much as or how you will.

I want some ointment pots. In the course of years I have purchased five or six lots. All of them are affected with the same fault. After a year or two the glaze cracks, old ointment infiltrates the material of the pot, causes fresh-made ointment to spoil, and makes elegant geometrical circles when put on the counter, while the gold labelling speedily shows decay. Others have found the same fault, even if they have not made it known; at least, so I judge from the fact that when looking for a business some little while since, I saw

some 6-lb. ointment jars with common stoneware jars inside—a practice somewhat allied to that of corking a bottle and tying the stopper on outside—for ornament. Why cannot our mauve, blue, or white jars—costing treble that of the stoneware—be as impenetrably glazed? If some of the merchant princes of our trade were to make a stand against the distribution of such material, I think they would gain customers, and earn the thanks of many who, like myself, in their efforts to keep the shop clean, are often very

HARD-PUSHED. (137/43.)

Preservation of Leeches.

SIR,—As this subject is being discussed in your valuable journal, I give my method of keeping leeches, which I find answers well, and is less trouble than that of some of your correspondents. I never give leeches any meat or worms; they are kept in an earthenware vase, which has been in use about fifty years, with glass cover and perforated zinc rim; in the bottom are a few pebbles, and part of an earthenware drainer, through the holes of which the leeches crawl when they require a little help to cast their skin. The ordinary tap-water (off the limestone) with which they are supplied is changed three times a week in summer, and once or twice a week in the winter. Loss or complaints are very rare, sometimes not once in six months. I always dry leeches before selling, for two reasons: (1) because they bite more readily, and (2) because the glue of the box is often moistened when they are sent a distance. I should think the weeds, carth, &c., which some advocate, would make it rather difficult to find half a dozen or so.

Yours truly,

J. T. (138/59.)

Essence of Rennet.

SIR,—I do not consider the way you mention for filtering the above at all good, viz., through absorbent cotton. I do not think this would make a clear and nice preparation. I have made hundreds of gallons and have always found the essence of a much brighter and better colour by filtration through "charcoal" (ordinary "lamp black"). I well wash the "bag" and cut into about twenty pieces, then well rub it with salt, and allow it to remain at least three or four days, sometimes three or four months. I then squeeze through a flannel straining-bag, add about 4 oz. of S.V.R., in which my essential oils for flavouring, viz., pimento, lemon, and nutmeg have been dissolved, and filter through "lamp black." This makes a most satisfactory preparation, one teaspoonful sufficing to make one quart of "junket." I shall be pleased to give your correspondent more details of *modus operandi* if required.

I am, yours faithfully,

TOM KITTOW.

Anti-Smut.—Mr. Kittow says: "Sulphate of iron is also largely used in the West of England for preventing 'smut' in wheat"— $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. is the quantity generally used per bag."

How to Sell Quinine.

SIR,—The question "How to sell quinine" has been long solved in the manner hinted at by the *Tropical Agriculturist*.

Some eight or nine months ago I was not a little surprised to see suspended in the private bar of one of the largest East-end hotels (the Eastern Hotel) a conspicuous card to which six squat wide-mouth bottles, labelled and sealed, were attached by indiarubber slips, with the bold superscription,

"Pure Quinine, 1s. per bottle."

I should say the bottles would hold about a drachm of quinine.

MELALEUCA. (140/12.)

The Toughened Glass Mortar.

SIR,—A curious accident happened in my shop this morning, this account of which you may perhaps think worthy of insertion in your next issue. My assistant was making up a prescription in which chlorate of potash was an ingredient. This

he was rubbing down in a toughened glass mortar, when, just as he was about to pour the contents into a bottle, the mortar actually exploded with a loud noise, and fell to the ground in a thousand pieces, fortunately without inflicting any injury to himself or breaking anything on the counter. I may say that he had already poured most of the chlorate into the bottle, and was giving the mortar a final rinse.

Any explanation of the above will be looked for with interest by one who constantly reads the columns of your valuable paper.

I remain, sir, yours sincerely,

Southend, Essex, August 3.

G. R. DAWSON.

Fly Gum.

SIR,—A seasonable article of sale may be prepared by filling $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. shallow tin boxes (such as are used for brass polish) with ordinary birdlime. There is a very strong objection to the use of the poisoned fly-paper; and although the sight of flies kicking for hours is not pleasant, yet numerous inquiries are made for a sticky article.

Yours truly,

HEDER. (139/43)

The Aloe Plant and Hot Weather.

SIR,—A gentleman in this town has a plant of *Aloe mitraformis*, brought from the Cape some years ago. It is interesting to a druggist, as one of the plants yielding Cape aloes. This year, owing perhaps to the intense heat, the plant has blossomed. It is about four feet high, and the flowers have come on new shoots of two or three years' growth. The blossom is a shortened spike or tuft of drooping calices, which are of a yellowish-green colour, pink at the mouth. A seed-vessel has formed on one head, but it is hardly likely to ripen. It is a rare occurrence for this species to blossom in England.

Yours truly,

HEDER. (139/43)

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

135/50. *Wm. Ashton*.—Gum acroides is a resin obtained in very large quantities from the *Xanthorrhoea hastilis*, a native of Australia. It is a yellow or reddish-yellow resin which darkens with age, and is used as a varnish-making resin, also, in this country, to some extent, by bookbinders. It yields a large amount of picric acid when treated with nitric acid. The price of acroides gum is certainly very low at present, but the parcel mentioned in our market report as having been sold at 3s. per cwt. must have been of the commonest quality.

138/56. *Apprentice*.—See an article in last volume, p. 520.

139/38. *Phosphate*.—We gave two formulæ for syr. ferri et quinae iodidi in last volume. There may be various causes for syrup of iodide of iron becoming brown a few hours after it is made. Most likely the colouration is due to the liberation of iodine; if that is so, a spiral of polished iron wire placed in the syrup will soon decolourise it.

Ozone.—*T. R. D.* corroborates from experience the warning given by Mr. Alcock regarding the great danger of mixing permanganate of potash and sulphuric acid.

138/52. *N. M.*—**Cockle's Pills** are understood to be a pill similar in composition to one made from ext. coloc. co. (made with scammony instead of the resin), 2 parts; pil. hydrarg., 1 part.

138/49. *Vet.*—**To Colour Billiard Balls.**—First immerse for ten to twenty minutes in dilute nitric acid (1 in 30); wash with cold water, and then boil in a pint of water containing 100 grains of cochineal and the same of stannous chloride. After half an hour add a pinch of tartaric acid.

To Carbolic Lime, you should use only sifted lime; add the carbolic acid to it, and mix in a mixing machine. If

you were to add the acid along with water to unslaked lime, you would lose a portion of it by the heat which is generated.

139/15. *Kent*.—**Cupobe** is presumably another rendering for "cubebis."

139/27. *Knowledge*.—You will find an account of **Holman's Liver Pad** in our last volume, page 432.

Puff-box Philosophy.—*Hard Pushed* (137/43) describes how he has observed that in his window are four puff-boxes—two black and two yellow—with white labels. Both are an equal distance from the glass, yet the glass is, he thinks, 8° to 10° warmer in the front of the black ones than it is before the yellow. He wonders why this should be. The reason is that the black boxes are better absorbers of heat than the white; consequently they radiate the heat much better.

135/51. *Unaflora*.—**Essence of Wallflowers.**—Extracts of cassie, orris, and vanilla, of each 10 oz.; extracts of orange and rose, of each 20 oz.; extract of civet, 3½ oz.; oil of almonds, 10 minims; otto of rose, 20 minims. Mix. We do not have a formula for cherry blossom.

136/55. *Cynon*.—Try solution of iodide of starch as an evanescent ink. Weak solution of iodine will restore it when the writing fades.

Piclas Hosa and Khibla Well Pills are commodities which a correspondent has recently been asked for. What are they?

138/35. *Dandy Tiger*.—The marc of tincture of opium, if the tincture has been made properly, is valueless; nevertheless, we have heard that morphia manufacturers are not unwilling to purchase it. We cannot recommend you to use it for veterinary purposes.

137/11. *Indugator*.—A mixture of citrate or acetate of ammonia, with excess of acid and sweetened, is generally all that children with measles require. But a good deal depends upon the case; if there are complications, you should have nothing to do with it.

Books.

10/138. *W. L.*—"Ince's Latin Grammar of Pharmacy." (Baillière, 4s.)

140/2. *C. B. C.*—**Crystallised Pomade** :—

Olive oil	3ix.
Spermaceti	3j.
Oil of bergamot	3j.
„ cloves	3 drops
„ cinnamon	5 „
„ neroli	3 „

Dissolve the spermaceti in the oil by the aid of heat. Place the bottles up to the neck in water as hot as they will bear. Then fill with the pomade, adding the perfume immediately before pouring out. Cover the bottles as soon as they are filled, and do not disturb them until the pomade is perfectly solid. It may be coloured with palm oil or oleaceous annatto colouring. The latter can be made by digesting 1 oz. of the seeds in 8 oz. of olive oil.

Orris root is the perfume of the cheaper **Violet Powders**. The following is a good perfume for the better kinds :—

Oil of bergamot	3j.
„ lemon	3j.
„ cloves	3ss.
„ lemon	3ss.
Mix.	

A drachm of this is sufficient to add to each pound of a mixture of powdered starch and orris (equal parts).

137/41. *J. J.*—**Mosquito Lotion.**—To prevent the bites many preparations have been recommended. The following is one of the best:—

Insect-powder	1 oz.
Acetic ether	$\frac{1}{2}$ "
Rectified spirit	q.s.

Macerate the powder in the ether and 4 oz. of spirit for three days, then filter; add to the filtrate 15 drops of oil of lavender and sufficient spirit to make 5 oz.

This should be diluted with an equal volume of water before being applied to the skin.

For allaying the irritation of mosquito bites, a weak solution of ammonia is good—equal parts of the aromatic spirit and water, for example.

140/30. *J. L.*—**To Clean Ivory.**—Make a solution of soft soap (1 part in 10 of hot water), and scrub this on the ivory with a soft tooth-brush; dip in a solution of carbonate of soda, then wash with water, and finally damp with a cloth saturated with methylated spirit. Rub with a dry soft rag until the polish is restored.

G. L. C.—**Bilberry Stains in Cloth.**—A weak solution of chlorinated lime will remove these; but ascertain if it does not also remove the colour of the cloth.

140/43. *Curiosity.*—You will find the same prescription fully explained in our last volume.

Heder.—The addition of dilute nitro-muriatic acid, a drachm or two to the gallon, is said to remove the yellow colour from eau de Cologne. The same quantity of liq. plumbi is also effectual.

A Treacle Beer Query.—*Auld Reekie* (140/7) writes:—"Some time since I read in your journal an account of a visit to some lead-works. The writer of the article took notice of and gave a formula for a treacle beer containing sulphuric acid. Can any correspondent give the formula, as I cannot find it?"

Heder says he "once saw a chemist make *Aq. Cinnamomi* with *oleum cassiæ* and a few drops of acid sulph. dil! The acid destroys the bright yellow colour of the water."

137/63. *Calcium.*—The bark which you send is cusparia bark and the tuber is official jalap.

137/61. *Rhubarb.*—(1) The vinegar goes wrong most likely because it contains so much organic matter and a deficiency of sulphuric acid. You should return it, and try another maker if you are not satisfied. (2) The grocers who sell 2 oz. of cream of tartar at 1½d. are either attempting to ruin themselves for the benefit of the public or they do not give a pure article. If you have good grounds for the latter supposition you should bring the matter under the notice of the inspector. (3) Concentrated infusions require at least 3 oz. of rectified spirit to the pint, or 4 oz. of glycerine, but the quantities vary. You cannot have them both ridiculously cheap and good.

141/2. *J. C. Kidd.*—You will find full particulars regarding the examinations for *L.D.S. sine curriculo* in our last educational number (Sept. 13, 1886). The subjects are anatomy, physiology, chemistry, materia medica, medicine, surgery, and the dental subjects, theoretical and practical. The Edinburgh examination is not difficult, and you would probably manage it by self-study. Write to the Dean of the Dental Hospital, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, for full particulars.

141/6. *M. P. S.*—**Malted Food.**—See references in the index of June 26, under "Food."

Subscriber (17/260) sends a label for a compound hop tonic bitters, for the use of which, he says, a chemist in the neighbourhood has been threatened, and asks if we consider the label would render anyone liable to prosecution. The fact that the company have threatened some one with prosecution seems to answer the question. Prosecution cannot be prevented. We are very doubtful whether a conviction could be obtained, but we are not disposed to express a definite opinion until Mr. Justice Stirling has expressed his view.

DISPENSING NOTES.

[The opinion of practical readers is invited on subjects discussed under this heading.]

Liq. Ammon. Acetatis as an Antacid.

SIR,—I have dispensed a prescription for the above. One drachm in a bottle of milk every two hours—the patient being an infant three months old. I shall be glad to hear if this is an unusual prescription.

Yours truly,
HEDER. (139/43.)

Extractum Ergotæ Liquidum.

SIR,—I enclose you 5ij. ext. ergot. liq., same as I used in dispensing the undernoted prescription. My customer, who has had it dispensed in Newcastle, says that what I have supplied is not bitter, like what he got there. I have, for my own satisfaction, repeated the prescription, using liquid extract as sample, and also that of a different maker; but in both cases the mixtures are the same. I fancy the extract used in Newcastle must have been overheated during evaporation, and this might impart a bitterness to it. Please give your opinion of the sample sent, and also of the proper taste; and, if bitter, should it be intensely so, as I do not think the liq. strychninæ is sufficient to give it a bitter taste. Also, would you say what you consider a reasonable price for the mixture?

Liq. strychninæ	3j.
Ext. ergot. liq.	3ij.
Glycerine	3j.
Aq. ad	3viij.

M.

Sig.: ʒss. in water four times a day.

Yours truly,
ERGOT. (140/73.)

[Liquid extract of ergot should not have more than a faint bitterness. The sample which our correspondent sends is perfectly good. The mixture should, of course, be bitter, owing to the quantity of strychnine in it. A grain of the alkaloid is sufficient to make a gallon of water distinctly bitter. The recognised price for such a mixture is 1s. 6d.]

Extractum Aloes Aquosum.

SIR,—I shall be glad to have your opinion respecting a matter about which there is some little doubt.

When ext. aloes aquos. (simply) is ordered, which should be supplied—ext. aloes Soc. or ext. aloes Barb., and ought it not to be labelled "Barb." or "Soc.," as the case may be?

Yours respectfully,
N. W. (139/54.)

[Extract of Socotrine aloes is generally given in the circumstances, but in some parts of the country that extract is comparatively little used, the extract of Barbadoes aloes having taken its place. The principal reason why preference is given to the Socotrine aloes extract is that in the London Pharmacopœia the other was specifically named ext. aloes Barbadosensis, whereas extractum aloes was described as extract of Socotrine aloes. Following custom, therefore, that should be given.]

Information Wanted.

[Replies to the following requests are solicited by Correspondents of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.]

139/28. Composition of Cole's patent Ossidine.